The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 5689 號五千六百八十九第 日三念月正年子丙緒光 HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH, 1876. 四拜禮 號七十月二英 港香 [PRICE $2½ PER MONTH.

Arrivals.

February 16, DOUGLAS, British str., 849, E. Burnie, Foochow 18th February, Amoy 14th, and Swatow 15th, General.—D. LAPRAIK & Co.

February 16, VIGILANT, British man-of-war, 835, H. Ryder, Manila 12th February.

February 16, PENG-CHAO-HAI, Chinese gunboat, 600, Palmer, from Cheung-chow.

February 16, ALBATROSS, German bark, 377, P. Koppelmann, Saigon 11th January, Rice.—MELCHERS & Co.

February 16, NORNA, British str., 606, A. G. Walker, Swatow 15th February, General.—KWOK ACHEONG.

Clearances.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE, FEBRUARY 16TH.

Rajah, str., for Swatow.
Riga, str., for Swatow.
China, str., for Ningpo and Shanghai.
Altona, str., for Saigon.
Pardo, str., for Saigon.
Lucre, for Bangkok.
Fu Sheng, str., for Canton.
Estepona, str., for Saigon.
Fortune, for Bangkok.
Kwangtung, str., for East Coast.

Departures.

February 16, CHINKIANG, str., for Shanghai.
February 16, LITTLE ORPHAN, str., for Newchwang.
February 16, ESTEPONA, str., for Saigon.
February 16, H.M.S. HIMALAYA, for Singapore.
February 16, RIGA, str., for Swatow.
February 16, THALES, str., for Shanghai.
February 16, PARDO, str., for Saigon.
February 16, PENEDO, str., for Saigon.
February 16, CITY OF EXETER, str., for Cooktown.

Passengers.

ARRIVED.

Per *Douglas*, str., from East Coast:—
Mr. and Mrs. Harton and child, Mr. Sthalman Mawka and two children, Messrs. Brander, Northey, Merejon, and Forsyth.
Per *Norna*, str., from Swatow:—
1 European and 100 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per *Pardo*, str., for Saigon:—
100 Chinese.
Per *Riga*, str., for Swatow:—
30 Chinese.

TO DEPART.

Per *Lombardy*, str., for Shanghai:—
Mr. D. Parker.
Per *Sunda*, str., for Yokohama:—
Dr. A. Baker, Messrs. J. Burt and A. Roper.
Per *Rajah*, str., for Swatow:—
30 Chinese.
Per *China*, str., for Ningpo, &c.:—
2 Chinese.
Per *Lucre*, for Bangkok:—
20 Chinese.
Per *Fortune*, for Bangkok:—
20 Chinese.
Per *Kwangtung*, str., for East Coast:—
2 Cabin and 100 Chinese.

The following passengers proceed by the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s str. *Gwalior*, to-day, at noon:—
For Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. Kerr and servant, and Mr. Butcher, and 2 Chinese. For Bombay.—Mr. Meyer Allee. For Southampton.—Messrs. Tomita, C. Williams, W. Clark, and W. Panton.

Reports.

The British steamship *Norna* reports left Swatow on 15th February, and had gloomy weather and light N.E. monsoon throughout.

The British steamship *Douglas* reports left Foochow on 13th January, Amoy on the 14th, and Swatow on the 15th. In Amoy, the strs. *Ulysses* and *Formosa*. In Swatow, the strs. *Norna* and *Amoy*.

The German bark *Albatross* reports left Saigon on 11th January. The first part fresh N.E. winds and head sea from lat. 14 N. and long. 113 E., then strong N.E. and Easterly winds from lat. 16.44 N. and long. 118.18 E.; then fresh N.E. winds with high swell and much rain to port.

Vessels that have arrived in Europe from Ports in China, Japan and Manila.

(Per last Mail's Advice.)

Vessels.	*From.*	*Date of Arrival.*
Loyalu	Manila	Dec. 17
Agamemnon (s.)	China Ports	Dec. 23
Hope	Iloilo	Dec. 26
Naples (s.)	China Ports	Dec. 28
Maggie Douglas	China Ports	Dec. 28
Norman Court	China Ports	Dec. 13

Vessels Expected at Hongkong.

(Corrected to Date.)

Vessel's Name.	*From.*	*Dates.*
Minnesota	Charleston (U.S.)	June 30
Stefano	Cardiff	July 30
Iphigenia	Hamburg	Sept. 4
Formosa	Hamburg	Sept. 26
Sir H. Parkes	London	Sept. 29
Ferdinand	Cardiff	Oct. 13
Esmeralda	Cardiff	Oct. 14
Fanny	Cardiff	Oct. 15
Rockwood	Cardiff	Oct. 16
Portland	Portland, O.	Oct. 22
British Crown	Cardiff	Nov. 1
Canton	Cardiff	Nov. 16
Tassan	New York	Nov. 18
F. H. Drews	Cardiff	Nov. 20
N. d'Auxilatrice	Cardiff	Nov. 21
Alma	Cardiff	Nov. 22
Assens	Antwerp	Nov. 23
Annie Fish	Cardiff	Nov. 26
Comet	Boston, U.S.	Nov. 26
Jylland	Hamburg	Nov. 27
Oceanus	Cardiff	Dec. 1
Hieronymus	Cardiff	Dec. 12
Anna	Cardiff	Dec. 18
[illegible]	[illegible]	Dec. 26
Nestor (s.)	London	Dec. 27
Rota	Cardiff	Dec. 29
Diomed (s.)	Liverpool	Dec. 30
Oxfordshire (s.)	London	Dec. 31
Belted Will	London	Dec. 31

Auction Sales To-day.

J. M. ARMSTRONG, at 12 noon, Sundry Goods.

LOST, on Saturday, a DIAMOND SHIRT-STUD, with small Gold Chain attached. Liberal REWARD will be given, if returned to the Office of this Paper.
7d 219 Hongkong, 15th February, 1876.

OFFICERS' MESS, 28TH REGIMENT.

THE OFFICERS of the 28th Regiment will not hold themselves RESPONSIBLE for any DEBTS contracted by their Messman.
By order,
FRANCIS E. WEBB, Captain and Mess President.
Murray Barracks, Hongkong, 15th February, 1876. [226

FOR SALE.

JUST RECEIVED, some very Old Superior PORT WINE, in Cases of One or Two Dozens.
Apply to J. J. DOS REMEDIOS & Co.
1m 225 Hongkong, 15th February, 1876.

To be Let.

TO LET.

NO. 5, ZETLAND STREET.
Apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
tf 512 Hongkong, 7th February, 1876.

TO LET.

With Immediate Possession,
THE Semi-detached RESIDENCES Nos. 1 and 2, WESTBOURNE VILLAS, Bonham Road.
The HOUSE at the west end of "The Albany," recently in the occupation of the Hon. C. C. SMITH.
HOUSES on Upper Mosque Terrace.
All with Gas and Water laid on.
Also,
A First-class GODOWN at Wanchi of about 5,000 tons capacity.
Apply to T. G. LINSTEAD.
1464 Hongkong, 12th January, 1876.

TO BE LET.

With Immediate Possession,
THE HOUSE No. 7, Gough Street. Apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
1473 Hongkong, 29th September, 1875.

TO LET.

A FIRST-CLASS GRANITE GODOWN on the Praya, Wanchai.
Apply to S. E. BURROWS & SONS.
tf 453 Hongkong, 20th March, 1875.

TO LET.

THE Premises known as the "THE WOODLANDS," newly painted and in Good Order.
Apply to REMEDIOS & Co.
tf 131 Hongkong, 22nd January, 1876.

TO LET,

With Immediate Possession,
THE HOUSES, Nos. 2 and 4, Praya East.
Two GODOWNS, Nos. 2 and 4, Praya East.
The HOUSE No. 10A, CAINE ROAD.
All with Gas and Water laid on. Apply to
SPANISH PROCURATION,
1m 137 10, Caine Road.

TO BE LET.

With Possession on 1st March next,
THE Commodious and Centrally situated DWELLING HOUSE, at present in the occupation of Dr. O'BRIEN.
For all particulars, apply to
ROBERT G. ALFORD, Surveyor, Club Chambers.
1m 124 Hongkong, 31st January, 1876.

TO LET,

With Immediate Possession,
TWO DWELLING HOUSES and OFFICES, Nos. 14 and 16, Stanley Street, lately in the occupation of Messrs. RAYNAL & Co.
The HOUSE, No. 35, Wellington Street, lately in the occupation of Messrs. ROSE & Co.
The DWELLING HOUSE and OFFICES, No. 1, Stanley Street, lately in the occupation of Messrs. DREYER & Co.
The DWELLING HOUSE, No. 4, Alexandra Terrace.
The STORE and DWELLING HOUSE, No. 31, Queen's Road, lately in the occupation of Miss GARRETT.
The HOUSE and OFFICES, No. 3, D'Aguilar Street, lately in the occupation of Mr. F. DEGENAER.
The STORE and PREMISES, Nos. 42 and 44, Queen's Road, lately in the occupation of Messrs. DUBOST & Co.
The Ground and First-floors of the HOUSE No. 1, Wyndham Street, with Stable attached.
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
1f 1864 Hongkong, 5th January, 1876.

TO LET.

THE PREMISES lately occupied by THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, Queen's Road.
Apply to G. FALCONER & Co.
tf 1070 Hongkong, 7th July, 1875.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....5,000,000 of Dollars.
RESERVE FUND..... 100,000 of Dollars.

Court of Directors:—
Chairman—AD. ANDRE, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—E. R. BELILIOS, Esq.
J. F. Cowdee, Esq. | A. McIver, Esq.
H. Hoppius, Esq. | S. W. Pomeroy, Esq.
F. D. Sassoon, Esq.
Chief Manager.
Hongkong—James Greig, Esq.,
Manager.
Shanghai—Ewen Cameron, Esq.
London Bankers—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.
INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.
On Fixed Deposits:—
For 3 months' 2 per cent. per annum.
6 „ 4 „ „
12 „ 5 „ „
LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits—granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.
Drafts—granted on London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.
JAMES GREIG, *Chief Manager.*
Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East,
Hongkong, 27th January, 1876.

EDICTALLADUNG.

DAS Obergericht der freien Hansestadt Bremen macht hiedurch bekannt, dass auf den Bericht, der Pupillen-Commission der Antrag von HINRICH HAESLOOP Ehefrau, Johanne Gesine, geb. Goosmann, "ihren Ehemann HINRICH HAESLOOP, geboren am 10ten Februar, 1836, zu Rönnebeck, Sohn des Kahnschiffers Ficke Haesloop und dessen Ehefrau, Christine, geb. Schulken, zu Rönnebeck, welcher am 1 September, 1871, als Capitain des der hiesigen Handelsgesellschaft Bagelmann & Vietor gehörigen Schiffes "META" mit demselben von Hongkong nach Chefoo abgesegelt, an letzterem Platze jedoch nicht angekommen, und von welchem keine Kunde wieder hierher gelangt sei, so dass angenommen werden müsse, er sei mit dem Schiffe verunglückt, fuer todt zu erklaeren," fuer zulässig und demgemaess eine Edictalladung des Verschollenen erkannt worden ist.

Es wird daher der vorerwähnte HINRICH HAESLOOP hiedurch geladen, spätestens am MONTAG, den 25 Maerz, 1877, Vormittags 10 Uhr, vor dem Obergerichte in dessen Audienzzimmer auf hiesigem Rathhause persoenlich oder durch einen Bevollmächtigten zu erscheinen, oder bis dahin Kunde von seinem Leben und Aufenthalt zu geben, widrigenfalls er fuer todt erklaert und sein Vermoegen den in Folge seines Todes dazu Berechtigten verabfolgt werden wird. Sodann werden Alle, welche von seinem Leben oder Tode Nachrichten besitzen, aufgefordert, solche dem Obergerichte mitzutheilen.

Zugleich werden die unbekannten Erben und Glaeubiger des obgenannten HINRICH HAESLOOP hiemit geladen, ihre etwaigen ANSPRUECHE und FORDERUNGEN, bei Strafe des Verlustes derselben, in dem obgedachten Termine anzugeben und geltend zu machen.

Bremen aus der Canzlei des Obergerichts, den 17ten December, 1875.
209] H. LAMPE, Dr.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt of instructions from the Board of Directors, authorizing them to issue Policies to the extent of £10,000 on any one First-class Risk, or to the extent of £15,000 on Adjoining Risks at Current Rates.
A Discount of 20 % allowed.
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co., *Agents.*
48 Hongkong, 8th January, 1875.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

MR. MEYER ELIAS SASSOON has been ADMITTED a PARTNER in our Firm from the 1st January ultimo.
E. D. SASSOON & Co.
1m 154 Hongkong, 3rd February, 1876.

THE Undersigned have entered into CO-PARTNERSHIP from the FIRST DAY of JANUARY, 1876, in the Business of SHIP-BROKERS at this Port, under the style of "MORRIS and RAY."
A. G. MORRIS,
E. C. RAY.
Bank Buildings, Hongkong,
3rd February, 1876. [1m 160

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned, having given up his Agency for dealing in Steam Re-reeled Silk for KAI-CHEONG-LOONG, Canton, from the 1st day of August, 1875, will not be responsible for any accounts contracted for the aforesaid firm, either before or after the above date.
YOW KWOK CHUN,
NAM SING,
74, Queen's Road Central.
3m 1728 Hongkong, 20th November, 1875.

BOCHUMER VEREIN FUR BERGBAU UND GUSS-STAHL FABRICATION, IN BOCHUM (GERMANY).

CAST STEEL WORKS.

THE Undersigned have been appointed SOLE AGENTS in CHINA for the above Establishment.
J. W. MULLER & Co.
3m 59 Shanghai, 1st January, 1876.

NOTICE.

MR. OTTO GRABE has been ADMITTED a PARTNER in our Firm from 1st January, 1876.
E. MEYER & Co.
1m 93 Tientsin, 1st January, 1876.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE.

FROM this date, and until further notice, Mr. G. DE CHAMPEAUX will act at this port as AGENT of the above Company.
By Order of the Directors,
C. BERTRAND.
125 Hongkong, 30th January, 1876.

THE Interest and Responsibility of the late Mr. SIDNEY DEACON in our Firm CEASED on the 9th September last.
Mr. ALFRED T. DUVAL was ADMITTED a PARTNER therein on the 1st January, 1876.
DEACON & Co.
1m 176 Canton, 1st February, 1876.

NOTICE.

WE have established BRANCHES of our FIRM at HAIPHONG and HANOI. Mr. E. CONSTANTIN is authorised to SIGN by procuration in Tonquin.
LANDSTEIN & Co.
3 Hongkong, 1st January, 1876.

NOTICE.

I HAVE This Day authorized Mr. J. Y. V. SHAW to SIGN my NAME per procuration.
A. MACG. HEATON.
8 Hongkong, 1st January, 1876.

FOR SALE.

THE UNDERMENTIONED LAND and BUILDINGS.

AT HONGKONG:—

INLAND LOT 82.—The well-known House and Offices lately occupied by Messrs. A. HEARD & Co., adjoining the Cathedral Compound.
The Ground below the masonry retaining wall of the above abutting on the Queen's Road.
Annual Crown Rent, $390.48.

MARINE LOT 111, WANCHAI.—First-class and extensive Godowns.
Annual Crown Rent, $324.

INLAND LOT 591.—Situated on the Bonham Road, and one of the finest sites for Villa Residences in the Colony.
Annual Crown Rent, $79.78.

FARM LOT 17, POKFULAM, adjoining Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE's Premises.
Annual Crown Rent, $25.

AT KOWLOON:—

MARINE LOT 4.—With a frontage of 100 feet on the Praya, and with an area of 30,000 feet.
Reduced Annual Crown Rent, $10.

AT YOKOHAMA:—

LOTS No. 6 and No. 27 in the Foreign Settlement.
No. 6 is situated on the Bund, and comprises an Eight-roomed Dwelling House, detached, with Garden all round, Offices, Godowns, Servants' Quarters, and Outhouses. Area 1,064 Tsubos of 36 square feet.
Annual Ground Rent, $263.79.
No. 27 is separated from No. 6 by Water Street, and comprises large Tea Firing and other Godowns, Floss Silk Press, Compradore's Quarters, Stabling, and Fire Engine House. Area, 554 Tsubos.
Ground Rent, $154.97 per Annum.
Applications for Purchase, or further Information, to be made to
J. WHITTALL,
T. G. LINSTEAD,
Trustees A. Heard & Co.'s Estate,
23, Queen's Road, Hongkong.
142. Hongkong, 1st February, 1876.

STORAGE.

GOODS RECEIVED on STORAGE at moderate rates. Storage for KEROSINE OIL in approved Fire-Proof Godowns.
TO LET.—A Two-STORIED GODOWN, with immediate possession.
THE HOUSE No. 109, QUEEN'S ROAD, possession on 1st March next.
Apply to PURDON & Co.
1m 155 Hongkong, 4th February, 1876.

ED. CHASTEL,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
17, WYNDHAM STREET,
Next to the "Daily Press" Office.
N.B.—Price Lists and Samples on application.
935 Hongkong, 16th June, 1875.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Sole Agents for the Sale of their Goods in Hongkong and China by Messrs. J. & R. TENNENT, Glasgow, and Messrs. DAVID CORSAR & SONS, Arbroath.
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.
tf 419 Hongkong, January, 1867.

LUBECK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF LUBECK.

THE Undersigned having been appointed GENERAL AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to accept risks against Fire at current rates, subject to a discount of 20 %.
EDUARD SCHELLHASS & Co.,
3m 82] General Agents.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned having been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of $65,000, on first-class risks at current rates.
MELCHERS & Co.
tf 674 Hongkong, 1st May, 1874.

PHŒNIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents to the above Company at this Port, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of $40,000, on Buildings or on Goods stored therein.
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
tf 717 Hongkong, 9th November, 1869.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned will Sell by Public Auction,
THIS DAY,
the 17th February, 1876, at Noon, at his Sale Rooms, Queen's Road,—
13 Cases CHAMPAGNE.
50 Cases LIQUEURS.
1,300 Empty Flour BAGS.
3 Cases French RIFLES.
1 Case North CARBINES.
1 Case Sundry RIFLES.
1 Case CARTRIDGES and BELTS.
1 Case SHEET RUBBER.
1 Case SPIRIT LEVELS.
SPECTACLES, EYE GLASSES, FLANNELS, CASHMERE, MERINO, WOOL CUFFS, WAISTCOATS, and JACKETS, TIES, &c.
An Invoice of TOILET GLASSES.
An Invoice of Carpenter's TOOLS, comprising:—Smoothing PLANES, HICKORY PINS, Chisel and Saw HANDLES, Caulking MALLETS, GAUGES, Drawing KNIVES, CHISELS, HATCHETS, AXES, &c., &c.
Also,
1 Case MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, comprising:—VIOLINS, ACCORDIONS, CONCERTINAS, HARMONICAS, FLUTES, &c.
And
An Invoice of HUBRACK'S PAINT and OIL, &c., &c., &c.
TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7. All Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchasers' risk on the fall of the hammer.
J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.
228 Hongkong, 16th February, 1876.

GENERAL WEEKLY SALE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. will Sell by Public Auction, in their Sale Rooms, Praya,
TO-MORROW,
the 18th February, 1876, at Noon,—
SAUCES, PICKLES, SARDINES, FILES, VASES, PENHOLDERS, LAMPS.
25 Cases Swaine, Boord's OLD TOM.
25 Cases Jules Robin & Co.'s COGNAC.
25 Drums TURPENTINE.
100 Boxes WINDOW GLASS.
105 Long Enfield RIFLES.
Red COPPER SHEETS.
IRON PLATES.
SHEET ZINC and SHEET LEAD.
100 Casks PORTLAND CEMENT, &c., &c., &c.
TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7. All Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.
230 Hongkong, 17th February, 1876.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

SUBSTANTIAL ENGLISH & COLONIAL-MADE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, ENGRAVINGS, GLASSWARE, PLATED WARE, PIANO, &c., &c., &c.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from JOHN G. SMITH, Esq., to Sell by Public Auction, on
MONDAY,
the 28th day of February, 1876, at Noon, at his Residence, "IDLEWILD," owing to change of residence,—
The whole of his Substantial English and Colonial-made HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, comprising:—Drawing and Bedroom SUITES, GLASSWARE, PLATED WARE, Dinner, Dessert, and Breakfast SETS, ENGRAVINGS, PIER GLASSES, GASALIERS, GAS BRACKETS, CARPETS, Window CURTAINS and CORNICES, Marble-top TABLES, BOOKCASE, DINING TABLE, SIDEBOARD, WHATNOTS, CHAIRS, IRON BEDSTEADS, TOILET TABLES, WASHSTANDS and SERVICES, &c., &c.
And
A COTTAGE PIANO.
Catalogues will be issued.
TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7. All Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchasers' risk on the fall of the hammer.
J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.
220 Hongkong, 15th February, 1876.

FURNITURE SALE.

ELEGANT ENGLISH AND CANTON-MADE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, GRAND PIANO, PARK PHAETON AND PAIR OF PONIES.

A FINE COLLECTION OF FERNS, CAMELLIAS, ROSES, AND OTHER CHOICE PLANTS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on
TUESDAY,
the 29th February, 1876, at Noon, at "DUART," CAINE ROAD,
the Residence of the Hon. T. C. HAYLLAR,—
The whole of his Handsome and Substantially made HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, comprising:—
Handsomely Carved EBONY SIDE and CENTRE TABLES, Mahogany Marone Morocco Covered COUCHES and CHAIRS, Carved Bombay Blackwood COUCHES and FLOWER STANDS, Inlaid Ormolu CHIFFONIER and Japanese CABINETS, Handsome Mantel-piece MIRRORS.
OIL PAINTINGS, CHROMO-LITHOGRAPHS, ENGRAVINGS.
CARPET, WINDOW CURTAINS, Gilt CORNICES, GASALIERS, AQUARIUMS, Bronze and Porcelain VASES.
Handsome BOOKCASE, Carved SIDEBOARD with Mirror back, GLASS and CROCKERY WARE, SILVER and ELECTRO-PLATED TABLE WARE, WHATNOTS, CHAIRS, CLOCKS, Plated CANDLESTICKS.
Handsome Gilt BRASS BEDSTEAD with FEATHER MATTRESSES, BUREAU with MIRROR, WARDROBES, CHESTS of DRAWERS, WASHSTANDS, Toilet GLASSES, Cheval GLASSES, IRON and BRASS BEDSTEADS, LAMPS, &c., &c., &c.
A GRAND PIANO, by J. BROADWOOD and SONS, made expressly to stand this Climate.
One 4-Wheeled PARK PHAETON, by LEENY, with a Pair of WHITE PONIES, and Double Set SILVER MOUNTED HARNESS.
Ladies' and Gentlemens' SEDAN CHAIRS, &c., &c., &c.
The CARRIAGE and PONIES and the PLANTS will be Sold at 4 p'clock.
Catalogues will be issued prior to the Sale, and the Furniture will be on view on MONDAY, the 28th February, 1876.
TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7. All Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.
210 Hongkong, 14th February, 1876.

WANTED, a SITUATION, by a young German, as SERVANT-MAID to accompany a lady or family to Europe. Terms, Free Passage home. Address, "HOME PASSAGE," *Daily Press* Office.
1m 195 Hongkong, 10th February, 1876.

FIVE HOUSES for SALE, Nos. 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15, SHIP STREET, Wanchai.
For Particulars, apply to
T. ALGAR,
House Agent, 9, Hollywood Road.
73 Hongkong, 14th January, 1876.

Intimations.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS, in duplicate, marked on the Covers, "Tenders for Army Contracts," will be RECEIVED by the Undersigned until Noon on SATURDAY, the 19th inst., for the Undermentioned SUPPLIES and SERVICES, required by the War Department at Hongkong and Out-posts, during the year from the 1st April, 1876, to the 31st March, 1877, viz.:—

SUPPLIES.

1. For Her Majesty's Troops:—Provisions, Fuel, and Light, &c., &c.
2. For Hospitals:—Provisions, Wines, Porter, Ale, Spirits, &c., &c.

SERVICES.

3. Washing and Repairing Barracks and Hospital Bedding and Clothing; Repairing Utensils.
4. Cleaning the Roads, Parades, &c., at the various Cantonments, and other Scavengers' Work; also, Cleaning and Lighting Exterior Lamps, &c.; Sweeping Chimneys, Flues, and Stove Pipes.
5. Cleansing Nullah.

There will be a separate Tender for each of the five Items. No tender will be accepted from any person in Government employ.

Samples of certain of the Articles required, in accordance with which Supplies must be furnished, can be seen at this Office; where also Forms of Tender (no other than those issued by the Control Department will be recognized), Conditions of Contract, Specification, and Plan of the Scavenging Contract, and any further information that may be required, can be obtained upon application between the hours of 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily.
C. R. SHERVINTON,
Lieut.-Colonel,
Assistant Controller.
Control Office, Hongkong,
14th February, 1876. [7d 211

FOR THE RACES.

SAYLE & CO.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED, and are now SHOWING:—
DRAB SHELL HATS
with GAUZE VEILS.
CHRISTY'S BLACK and DRAB FELT HATS,
Newest Shapes.
PARIS SILK HATS.
LONG SCARVES,
"Colours of the Stables."
OPEN WINDSOR SCARVES,
Latest Designs.
The Four-in-Hand Club, Czar, and other New Styles in made-up SCARVES.
CLUB HOUSE CRAVATS
and
SILK and WOOL MUFFLERS.
NEW COLLARS,
including the Tandem, Carnival, Clyde, Lothair, Society, Connaught, and De Jarnac.
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WHITE LONG-CLOTH SHIRTS,
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FANCY TWEEDS,
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TROWSERINGS and BLACK and BLUE BERLIN COATINGS.
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These Goods made up to measure on the premises under the Supervision of Experienced European Cutters,
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DWELLING HOUSES No. 1 and No. 2, St. John's Place.
Apply to
S. E. BURROWS & SONS.
653 Hongkong, 1st May, 1875.

NOW ON SALE.

BOUND VOLUMES of the *China Overland Trade Report* for the Year 1874. Price Ten Dollars.
To be had at the *Daily Press* Office.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1876.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE DIVIDEND, at the rate of 4 per cent., or $3 per share, declared at the Ordinary Half-yearly Meeting of Shareholders held this day, will be PAYABLE at the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, on and after THURSDAY, the 27th instant. Shareholders are requested to apply at the Office of the Company for Warrants.
By order of the Board of Directors,
P. A. DA COSTA,
Secretary.
115 Hongkong, 24th January, 1876.

CHINA AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, IN LIQUIDATION.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

ON and after the 24th January, a FIRST DIVIDEND of Fifty Taels (Tls. 50) per Share will be PAYABLE at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Shanghai.
Warrants will be delivered upon presentation of the Scrip for endorsement at the Head Office, on and after the 19th inst.
By Order of the Liquidators
JOHN DUNN,
Acting Secretary.
63 Shanghai, 4th January, 1876.

Intimations.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders in the Corporation will be held at the CITY HALL, HONGKONG, TO-DAY, the 17th inst., at Two o'clock P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1875.
By order of the Board of Directors.
JAMES GREIG,
Chief Manager.
153 Hongkong, 17th February, 1876.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the REGISTER of SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from the 7th to the 17th current (both days included), during which period no transfer of Shares can be registered.
By order of the Board of Directors.
JAMES GREIG,
Chief Manager.
159 Hongkong, 3rd February, 1876.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Seventh Ordinary Annual Meeting of Shareholders in the above Company will be held at the Offices of the Company, No. 7, QUEEN'S ROAD, TO-DAY, the 17th February instant, at THREE o'clock in the Afternoon, to receive a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1875, the Report of the General Managers, and to elect a Consulting Committee and Auditors.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers, Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.
1m 89 Hongkong, 17th February, 1876.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 3rd to the 17th FEBRUARY next, both days included.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers, Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited.
1m 90 Hongkong, 17th January, 1876.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE SEVENTH ORDINARY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Company's Office, 39, Queen's Road, Victoria, at 3 o'clock in the Afternoon of TO-MORROW, the 18th February inst., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts, and the Report of the Directors, for the Year ending 31st December, 1875.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company WILL BE CLOSED from the 5th to the 18th February, both days inclusive.
By Order,
JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,
Secretary.
21d 121 Hongkong, 28th January, 1876.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Ordinary Yearly MEETING of the Shareholders will be held at the Office of the Company, Club Chambers, on MONDAY, the 28th February, at 3 P.M., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1875, the Report of the Directors, for the election of Directors and Auditors; also to declare a Dividend.
By Order of the Board.
D. GILLIES,
Secretary.
151 208 Hongkong, 12th February, 1876.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from the 15th to the 29th instant, both days included.
By Order,
D. GILLIES,
Secretary.
204 Hongkong, 12th February, 1876.

HONGKONG AND CHINA BAKERY COMPANY, LIMITED.

AN ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders of the above Company will be held at the Company's Office, Queen's Road, on THURSDAY, the 2nd March proximo, at 4 P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers, a Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1875, and for the election of a Consulting Committee and Auditors.
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,
General Managers.
181 207 Hongkong, 14th February, 1876.

G. O. ROGERS, DENTAL SURGEON, No. 7, ARBUTHNOT ROAD, (will be absent at Canton for a few days from the 28th instant.)
227 Hongkong, 16th February, 1876.

NOTICE.

In the Goods of GEORGE BARTY FALCONER, *Deceased.*

ALL Persons having any CLAIMS against the above Estate are requested to send in Particulars of the same to the Undersigned, on or before the 29th Day of February, 1876, after which date no Claims will be recognised.
And all Persons being indebted to the said Estate are requested to make Immediate Payment.
I. B. FALCONER,
Administratrix.
Queen's Road, Hongkong,
6th December, 1875. [1796

VICTORIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HONGKONG, LIMITED,
IN LIQUIDATION.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons holding Warrants against unclaimed Dividends, Interest, or Bonus, are requested to present same for payment at the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK before the 1st APRIL, 1876, otherwise their Claims will not be recognised.
ADOLF ANDRE,
F. D. SASSOON,
Liquidators.
1861 Hongkong, 20th December, 1875.

WASSIAMULL DHURRUMDASS,
CASHMERE and INDIA MERCHANT,
Has for Sale, Cashmere Shawls, Morning Gowns, Rampore and Delhi Shawls, Burnous, and Sindh Gold Lace Work Goods, &c., &c.
No. 30, QUEEN'S ROAD,
Next to Messrs. SAYLE & Co., Hongkong.
6m 1887 24th December, 1875.

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FOR SALE, Fresh TAKASIMA COAL, in lots to suit Purchasers.
Large, hand-picked, doubled-screened at $8 per Ton; Small, at $6 per Ton.
Apply to T. G. GLOVER,
No. 7, Queen's Road, and at East Point.
1787 Hongkong, 4th December, 1875.

Intimations.

THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL.

Under the Distinguished Patronage of H.E. Sir ARTHUR KENNEDY, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
The French "OPERA COMIQUE TROUPE," late of Paris, London, St. Petersburg, New York, and Saigon, will have the honor of giving their last Performance but one
THIS EVENING, FEBRUARY 17th,
"LES NOCES DE JEANNETTE,"
Opera Comique, by Victor Massé.
"M. CHOUFLEURI RESTERA CHEZ LUI,"
Opera Bouffe, by Offenbach.
M. L'AUNAY-CEPHAS, Director.
ADMISSION:—Dress Circle and Stalls $2; Back Seats $1.
Doors open at 8 o'clock; Performance at 9.
Tickets may be had, and Seats secured at Messrs. KRUSE & Co., also at the door of the Theatre on the night of Performance.

HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY.

THE THIRD CONCERT of the SEASON will be given in the CITY HALL on TUESDAY EVENING, February 22nd, commencing at 9 o'clock.
Tickets may be obtained of Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. on and after Saturday next.
ROBERT G. ALFORD,
Hon. Sec.
6d 217 Hongkong, 15th February, 1876.

FOR NINGPO AND SHAN

NOW READY.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY
FOR 1876,
With which is incorporated
"THE CHINA DIRECTORY."

THIS Work, in the FOURTEENTH year of its existence, is
NOW READY FOR SALE.
It has be compiled and printed at the *Daily Press* Office, as usual, from the best and most authentic sources, and no pains have been spared to make the work complete in all respects.

In addition to the usual varied and voluminous information, the "CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR 1876" contains a

CHROMO-LITHOGRAPH
OF A
PLAN OF VICTORIA, HONGKONG;
THE
FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF
SHANGHAI.
A Chromo-Lithograph Plate of the
NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE A
THE PEAK;
also of
THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAGS
(Designed expressly for the Work,)
MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN,
THE
P. & O. COMPANY'S ROUTES,
AND
THE COAST OF CHINA;
ALSO, THE
NEW CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE—
HONGKONG;
besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this Work in every way suitable for Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

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YOKOHAMA.....Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.
YOKOHAMA.....Mr. C. D. Moss, *Japan Gazette* Office.
MANILA.....Messrs. J. de Loyzaga & Co.
SINGAPORE.....Messrs. Liddelow and Martin.
LONDON.....Mr. F. Algar, Clement's Lane.
LONDON.....Mr. Geo. Street, 30, Cornhill.
LONDON.....Messrs. Bates, Henry & Co.
SAN FRANCISCO Mr. L. P. Fisher, 21, Merchants' Exchange.
NEW YORK.....Messrs. S. M. Pettingill & Co., 37, Park Row.

Hongkong, January 3rd, 1876.

BIRTH.

On the 12th February, at Hongkong, the wife of Mr G. R. LAMMERT, of a daughter.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 17TH, 1876.

RECENT telegraphic intelligence has tended to inspire a little more hope that something may yet come out of the Yunnan Inquiry. At one time the general belief out here was that the investigation would not only turn out a miserable farce, but that the lives of the British Commissioners would also be placed in needless jeopardy. It seemed fruitless to send out Representatives to sit at an Inquiry there was then every reason to believe would be conducted in the usual Chinese style, which generally ends in the condemnation of unimportant criminals and the screening of the principal culprits. It is by no means clear or certain that this will not still be the result of the proceedings over which LI HAN-CHANG has been deputed to preside. But the degradation of LI SITAI is a rather more hopeful sign, and may be taken as an indication that the Chinese Government is conscious that Great Britain cannot be trifled with any further. It is possible that in stripping this redoubtable soldier of his rank and commanding him to proceed to Yunnan to take his trial, the Chinese Government may have miscalculated its power, or may have issued the order knowing it would be disobeyed; but in any case the moral effect must be good, for the Chinese people will not fail to note that his disgrace was the result of an offence against Great Britain. This is, without doubt, what is to be desired. We want it to be known throughout the length and breadth of the Central Kingdom that a British subject is to be treated as any other foreigner with impunity by any Chinese official, however exalted his rank or formidable his power.

With regard to the safety of the Hon. W. GROSVENOR and his colleagues, there is no longer cause for much anxiety. The British Government have made known their intention to send troops through Burmah to meet them and this guard will not only suffice for their protection but will give them added influence and weight at the Inquiry in Yunnan. It would be one thing for the unprotected English Commissioners to make a suggestion or venture a remonstrance in connection with the proceedings; their utterances would then run a risk of being pooh-poohed, or lightly regarded; but, backed by an armed force, they will be able to speak with more authority and decision, and it is to be hoped will not hesitate to do so. It is more than probable they will have occasion to intervene. LI HAN-CHANG has shown a disposition so far to conduct the business of the inquiry in an off-hand kind of manner that is not at all consistent with English notions in regard to so important a question. We are not aware what powers actually have been given him, but he has certainly not lost any time in exercising them. Not that there is any cause to complain of his proceedings, as far as the justice of them is concerned, apparently at least; but he ought to have waited until the arrival of the English Commission before taking action in matters with regard to which they might have been consulted. In fact it is almost a wonder he has not gone much further and settled the affair, according to his own ideas, without more ado, leaving nothing for his British colleagues to do or say on their arrival but to acquiesce, or not, as they might think proper, in his work. He has, at all events, shown himself wanting in appreciation of the gravity of the case, but it may perhaps have arisen more from want of knowledge than lack of will.

Whatever the Government of Peking may imagine or intend on the subject there is now good ground for believing that the British Government does not intend to be played with. It has made known its demands and intends to exact their honest fulfilment. Whether the Chinese Authorities fully recognise this fact or not it is impossible to say with certainty, but the action taken with respect to LI SITAI would seem to imply that they have done so. If they are disposed to halt between two opinions, the arrival of a portion of the Flying Squadron in Chinese waters, which will happen before long, may assist them in arriving at a decision. They are pretty well aware of the folly of precipitating another struggle with a Power of whose strength and resources they have already had two signal proofs, and the wiser and more experienced Chinese statesmen have long since come to the conclusion that any appeal to arms with Great Britain would be worse than useless. At the same time there is in existence a party at Peking with very decided bellicose tendencies, who are foolish enough to imagine that the possession of a store of European arms and a few small gun-boats has placed China in a much better position to meet her ancient foe than before the Treaty of Tientsin. Every now and again the counsels of these war-loving spirits seem to gain a momentary ascendency, and the maintenance of peaceful relations hangs on a thread. There is no doubt this was the case more than once during the progress of the negotiations carried on by Sir THOMAS WADE. It is probably in deference to their wishes that the continual purchases of guns and munitions of war are made. Very lately ten large Krupp guns and nearly three hundred and fifty packages of munitions of war have been landed at Shanghai for the Chinese Government, and nearly every steamer from Europe, a northern contemporary tells us, brings consignments of warlike stores for the same destination. Simultaneously information has arrived in England to the effect that extensive orders have been received by private firms there from the Chinese Government for detached portions of Martini-Henry rifles in the rough, to be despatched with all possible speed to China, where they will be put together and finished at the various arsenals. It is not unlikely that the rumour of these preparations has induced Her MAJESTY'S Government to strengthen the fleet in these waters in case of a final rupture with the rulers of Peking. As a precautionary measure, the move is undoubtedly a good one, and in any case cannot possibly do any harm. A display of force is more calculated to inspire respect for a Power in the Eastern mind than months of negotiation. The Chinese understand compulsion better than persuasion, and very little is to be gained by employing the latter in dealing with them. At the same time, it is to be hoped that they will be content to believe in the superior might of British arms, and not compel us to drive conviction of the fact into them on the point of the bayonet.

The Ocean Steamship Company's steamer *Diomed* left Singapore for this port yesterday.

The steamer *Vasco de Gama* was turned over to Macondray & Co. on the 10th ultimo by the Pacific Mail Company, her charter having expired.

The steamship *Penedo* departed for Saigon yesterday morning, but put back again in consequence of a sudden death on board. The inquest having terminated last night, she again proceeded to sea.

Her Majesty's troopship *Himalaya*, with H.M.'s 80th Regiment steamed out of port yesterday morning a little before 10 o'clock. On going through the harbour cheers were given, and the band on board played some of Mr. Frayling's favourite pieces.

The fourth number of *Waflles's Bi-monthly* has just come to hand. It contains a report of Amoy Races, and the usual number of squibs, but we miss the sketches that were a strong feature in former issues. In the punctuation of this little paper there is room for a great deal of improvement.

The French Opera Comique troupe will give their third proformance at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, to-night when "Les Noces de Jeannette," an opera comique by Victor Massé, and "M. Choufleuri restera chez lui," an opera bouffe by Offenbach, will be produced. They form a sufficiently inviting programme to ensure a good house.

The steamship *City of Exeter*, which left on the 14th instant for Cooktown, anchored next morning near Green Island, some slight defect in her machinery having been discovered. The captain deemed it prudent to repair it in preference to running any risk, and accordingly came to anchor. The repairs having been completed, she left again yesterday morning.

Referring to the Imperial Edict in the *Peking Gazette* deprived LI SITAI and ordering him to Yunnan-foo for trial, we have to remark that the Tsungli Yamen Commissioner's present report is somewhat less roseate in hue than its predecessor. It is now admitted that Li Sitai actually was concerned in raising the force which repelled Colonel Browne's expedition. He even wrote to the Governor of Yunnan announcing his intention of stoutly guarding his district; and though the latter at once wrote warning him to prevent any popular outbreak the order arrived only after the event! Li Sitai is degarded from his official rank, accordingly, and ordered to Yunnan-foo for trial.

An inquest was held at the Government Civil Hospital yesterday before Mr. Russell, coroner, and a jury comprising Messrs. J. J. Turner, L. Steel, and W. F. Moore, on the body of Thomas Towning, a seaman on board the British steamship *Penedo*. It appears from the evidence of the captain and two seamen on board, that the steamer got under weigh yesterday morning and steamed out of the harbour for Saigon. At the extreme end of the port the anchors were being hauled at 9.30 a.m. and the deceased was engaged at this work. He appeared exhausted, and in a minute or so sat down and fainted. Efforts were made to restore him, but he got worse, and the captain put the vessel back. The poor fellow died, however, on the passage up the harbour. It appears he has complained of being unwell ever since the vessel arrived in port, and whilst in Bangkok he was very ill also. He is said to have been a very sober man. The inquest was adjourned for a *post-mortem* examination to be made, and will be resumed at 3 p.m. to-day at the Magistracy.

Some of the passengers brought by the steamship *Douglas* yesterday from Swatow are *en route* for the port of Kiungchow (Hainan), *viâ* Canton, to form the Foreign branch of the Imperial Maritime Customs there. The Chinese Revenue Cruiser *Ling Fei*, which for some time past has been fitting out at the Novelty Iron Works, will, as soon as ready, proceed to Canton and convey them and Mr. Forrest, H.B.M.'s Consul, to the newly opened port.

Vice-Admiral Ryder arrived in Her Majesty's ship *Vigilant* yesterday from Manila, and we learn on board that the flag-ship, the *Audacious*, was expected in Manila. Consequently the statement made by a vessel in port that she left Saigon on the 6th instant for Hongkong was not true. The *Audacious* is expected in Hongkong in about sixteen days more. Vice-Admiral Ryder will go home in about six months to accept promotion and an appointment.

SUPREME COURT.

February 16th.

BEFORE THE HON. CHIEF-JUSTICE (SIR JOHN SMALE) AND MR. JUSTICE SNOWDEN.

WHITTALL AND ANOTHER v. BENECKE AND OTHERS.—JUDGMENT.

Mr. Hayllar, Q.C., and Mr. Handley (instructed by Messrs. Caldwell and Brereton), appeared for the plaintiffs; and the Attorney-General and Mr. Kingsmill (instructed by Messrs. Sharp, Toller, and Johnson), for the defendants.

Their Lordships now delivered judgment in this case, at great length, the reading of the documents occupying an hour and a half.

The Court declares that the eight impeached deeds are fraudulent preferences, and that they are void against the plaintiffs, the trustees under the trust deed of April 19th, 1875, and that all the eight deeds and the title deeds relating to the several properties must be given up to the plaintiff.

Mr. Hayllar inquired if the Court had decided as to costs.

The Chief-Justice—Well, we have had a great deal of doubt about that matter. The view we took was that probably further consideration could be reserved, but as we go no further at present, now would be the time to consider the question.

Mr. Hayllar—As your Lordship's judgment in this case is equivalent to the verdict of a jury of fraudulent preference, in which case costs would have followed, I think they ought to do so now. I know it is a hard case for the defendants, but I don't think hardship ought to be considered in a case like this.

The Chief Justice—I may tell you what has pressed on my mind rather more. We have both of us found that if this had been a case in bankruptcy, costs would have come in the usual easy way—the costs of all parties out of the estate. Whether, outside bankruptcy, we ought to follow that, I can't say. Now we are in equity.

Mr. Kingsmill—I am afraid your Lordship can't help us.

The Chief-Justice (to Mr. Hayllar)—You have so far recovered. I don't say you have absolutely recovered, but you have got so far as to get hopes of so doing; then, if you fail, the other side will recover. Would it not be well to arrange for each side to bear their own costs? Could you not come to that agreement?

The Attorney-General—It is the hardest case of fraudulent preference I ever knew come before a Court. The defendants will lose £20,000 out of their own pockets, and it will be very hard if they have to pay the costs too.

The Chief-Justice—It is a hard case, and it was through exuberance of confidence in Messrs. Heard that the defendants did that which was perhaps a little imprudent on their part. If you would come to an agreement to pay your own costs, in the end it would be the best thing.

Mr. Hayllar—The balance of your Lordship's mind, I take it, is that no order for costs should be made.

The Chief-Justice—Are you content with that, or will you argue it further.

Mr. Hayllar—Well, your Lordship, I can't say I am content, but I won't argue it any further.

The Chief-Justice—Not content! Oh, you never are; no counsel is with out perfect victory.

The subject then dropped, no order being made as to costs.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

16th February.

BEFORE THE HON. C. MAY.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY.

A man named Wong Asim, belonging to Kowloon, was charged with attempting to commit a burglary at a house in Yee Yik lane, Seyingpoon, West Point, at about 11.30 p.m. To do this it appears the prisoner had to force his way through a gate leading into the lane, and the doorway leading into the house. He was discovered on the premises by the people in the house, who were attracted by a noise. They gave the alarm, and Chinese constable 189 and a district watchman were soon on the spot, and they captured the prisoner and found burglarious implements in his possession.

The prisoner denied the charge, and said he had gone out to see a friend residing at No. 13, in the lane. He could point out his friend.

At this stage he was sent in custody of the police to point out his friend, and it was found that a man he named did live there.

The prisoner waived notice of trial and was committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court for the 18th instant.

ASSAULT.

A Chinese bill collector at the Hongkong Hotel summoned the French cook of the Oriental Hotel for assaulting him when he went to collect money.

The defendant said the complainant came to collect money last month on a bill for $2.50. He gave him $2, all he had in his possession then, and the complainant bolted off without giving a receipt for it. When he came again this month with other bills he denied having received the $2, and demanded the full amount. He told him he would not pay the $2 again, when the complainant became very insolent, pulled up his sleeves, placed himself in a fighting attitude, and saying "you must pay," siezed him by the shirt and tore it. That, of course, made him angry, and he slapped his face but did not make his nose bleed as alleged. The Chinese cook saw this.

The Chinese cook was sent for, but spoke in favour of complainant.

The defendant was fined $5.

NO SPIRIT LICENSE.

Lee Lung Kee, master of the Cheong Shing shop, No. 32, High-street, charged, on remand, with selling samshu without a license, was again brought up.

The prisoner set up the plea that he was taking out a license and was arranging with securities before going to the Registrar-General's Office. It appears, however, that nine empty jars were found in his shop, all large and having had samshu in them, showing that if sold within the date he said he procured his stock to start business with, he had done a thriving trade.

He was fined $10, and cautioned for the future.

DISEASED PORK.

The defendant said he bought two pigs on the 14th from the Ng Fook Hing pig lan and sent them to the slaughter house, the pig in question was one of them.

This case was also put back for master of the Ng Fook Hing pig lan to be summoned forthwith.

The masters of the two pig lans appeared late in the day, when further evidence was taken.

Fong Abing, accountant at the slaughter house, said in the case of the Hop Kee stall their pig was brought at 4 p.m. and it died at 7 o'clock. He did not take notice of its being sick when brought. In the case of the Kum Heung Low roast pork shop, their pig died half an hour after it was brought, and he informed the inspector.

The master of the Kum Heung Low shop was then fined $25, and the master of the pig lan, named the Kwong Man Woh, who sold the pig to him, was fined $25.

The master of the Hop Kee stall and the master of the Ng Fook Ning pig lan, who sold him the pig, were remanded until the 18th instant.

THE SPANISH EXPEDITION TO SULU.

(*From a Correspondent.*)

MANILA, 5th February.

Yesterday was the day appointed for the sailing of the expedition to Sulu. At an early hour the troops formed and marched to the banks of the river Pasig, where five Bay steamers awaited them. Each steamer made three trips to the transports in the Bay, and by midday the embarkation was completed. The force consisted of the European regiment of Artillery, native regiment of Mountain Artillery, two companies of engineers, Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7 regiments of Native Infantry, two companies of the Guardia Civil, the medical, ecclesiastical, and commissariat brigades, and a squad of chain-gang. The Commander-in-chief, General Malcampo, embarked in the frigate *Carmen*, flag-ship of Admiral Pezuela.

As you already know, a large force, military and naval, has already been assembled at Zamboanga. The Manila contingent was despatched yesterday in the frigate *Carmen*, Government transport *Marquez de la Victoria*, steamers *Leon*, *Salvadora*, *Zamboanga*, *Molan*, *Leyte*, *Sorsogon*, *Emuy*, *Panay*, and *Pasig*; barques *Teresa* and *Delia*, brig *Gravina*, and a number of cargo boats in tow of the steamers. To-day the steamer *Orinoco* has been seized by Government, and will be despatched to-night for the same destination.

The writers in the local papers describe the first act of the drama about to be enacted in a way peculiar to themselves. There is not one article in the whole series worth the trouble of translating,—full of braggardism, false statements, and, I am sorry to say, even of blasphemous utterances,—they are evidently written only for the purpose of working up the troops to fighting point, and are quite unworthy of a place in your columns.

The Commander-in-chief has let out that he expects to have captured the Sulu group and be back again in Manila for his patron Saint's Day, 19th March, but he has doubtless made this calculation without previous consultation with his friend the Sultan of Sulu, who may object to such unceremonious treatment.

By Saturday the 12th instant all the forces should be ready at Zamboanga, which is about 80 miles distant from the Island of Jolo, the residence and stronghold of the Sultan, so that on Monday, the 14th inst., at latest, the expedition should be at its destination.

Two steamers are to be employed to keep up communication with Manila, so that we shall soon have news, and the same shall be duly transmitted to you.

Martial law was proclaimed by the Governor-General on the 28th ult., for Manila and the ten adjoining provinces, which proves that His Excellency had some fears for the safety of the capital during his absence. Everything, however, is quiet, and it is to be hoped that the permanent Court Martial now constituted within the city walls may not have to exercise its fearful power of despatching people into eternity at uncomfortably short notice.

FOOCHOW.

We regret to state that the proposed Spring Race Meeting has been unavoidably abandoned, owing to the Tartar General's refusal to lend the ground to the Club.

We understand that a piratical craft has been seen in the neighbourhood of this port, during the last few days, and that her presence is causing some anxiety to the district authorities. H.B.M.'s gunboat *Midge* is, we believe, going out in quest of her.

Later advices from Peking state that Ting A-cheong's acceptance of office as Futai, or Governor, of this Province, is insisted upon. His Excellency will accordingly, we understand, assume the seals in a few days.

The local authorities may be complimented on having taken at least one public work of utility in hand. An effort is being made to widen the northern approach to the Long Bridge, with a view to relieving the great press of traffic at that point.

The 9th inst. was observed as a holiday by the native population; the occasion being the Feast of Lanterns—not to be confounded with a somewhat similar festival later in the year. The spectacle at night, on the river, was rather imposing, thousands of lanterns being suspended from the mast-heads of junks and sampans. The inevitable fire crackers and other pyrotechnic properties also formed a conspicuous feature in the evening's proceedings.

We are informed that a preacher of the English Church Mission who rented a building in Yen-ping, for a temporary residence, about the time the American Methodist Chapel was destroyed by a mob, has been driven out, with his family, who have found refuge for the time at one of the Methodist Chapels further down the river. The mob seem to be still rampant, and are threatening to drive Christianity from the Prefecture entirely. The flags inscribed, "Expel and Destroy the Foreign Barbarians," are still flying, and vile placards against foreigners still adorn the walls of the city. Meanwhile, the native officials content themselves with writing dilatory and lying despatches; and are, undoubtedly, laying up more trouble for the future.—*Foochow Herald.*

SHANGHAI.

The *Nevada* came up from below shipping on the 7th instant. It seems that she had three hundred and forty-three packages of munitions of war on board for the Chinese Government. Nearly every steamer arriving from Europe brings consignments of warlike stores for the same destination.

It seems that however stringently filial piety is enforced in China, parents do not always behave with that tenderness towards their offspring which one would think would be the natural return of their devotion. For instance, the other day, a lady among the lower orders, being rather pressed for money, put her daughter in pawn for a few days, receiving the sum of fifty dollars for the child. She was only thirteen years old, but the pawnbroker seems to have treated her with great brutality, making her perform all the menial offices about the house, beating and cursing her when she failed in her endeavours to please him; and at length, charging her with having stolen some of the furniture to send to her mother, pinched her flesh with red-hot tongs. The poor mother went in second distress to the Mixed Court, and laid the facts of the case before him, and the miscreant was duly arrested. His protestations of innocence were quite useless, as the magistrate had already seen the child's body; and Tao, after reading him a lecture upon his cruelty and mendacity inflicted upon him a fine of twenty dollars. Such a gross miscarriage of justice is almost incredible, but we hear that this worthy officer takes great credit to himself for the equity of his decision!—*Courier.*

A good tale is told in Parisian drawing-rooms about a lady who, of high birth but small means, sold the hair off her head in order to buy a fashionable chignon.

M. Verger, a Paris wine-shop keeper, swears he will never again, in whatever strait he may be placed, accept the services of a casual passer-by. M. Verger was crossing the road of the Rue de la Chaussée-d'Antin, when he slipped on a slide, which had been made on the asphalte by some *gamins*, and fell, hurting his leg, and inflicting a severe wound near his eye. He was considerably injured, but a gentleman ran towards him, assisted him to rise, obligingly offered his arm to help him to a surgeon's house, from which, having politely shown him in, he discreetly retired. M. Verger, having his eye strapped up, took a *voiture* to his house in the Rue du Faubourg St. Martin, and on his arrival he found that the gentleman of politeness had relieved him of his watch and chain. But the robbery was committed in so gentlemanly and discreet a manner, that M. Verger has not the heart to put his case in the hands of the police.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

OPIUM.

WEDNESDAY, 16th February.

There has been an active demand for Patna to-day, and a good business done at $602½, and at $605 for select chests. Of Benares small sales at $567½, and at $570 for select chests. Market for Malwa not opened, pending the landing of the *Lombardy's* drug. Stock of Patna computed at 1,550 chests, of Benares 950 chests, and of Malwa 1,800 chests, inclusive of the quantity to go forward to Shanghai per *Lombardy*.

EXPORT CARGOES.

Per steamship *Gualior*, for London, &c.:—

For London 329 cases Raw Silk. For Continent 323 bales Raw Silk, 4 cases Silk Piece Goods. For India 150 pkgs. Silk, and 170 pkgs. Tea.

SHARES.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares.—7 per cent. premium.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, new shares —$600 per share.

China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—$1,500 per share.

China and Japan Marine Insurance—Tls. 59 per share (ex 1st dividend of Tls. 50 paid).

Chinese Insurance Company.—$220 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$545 per share.

China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$145 per share.

Victoria Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$89 per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—38 per cent. discount.

Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.'s Shares—5 per cent. discount.

Shanghai Steam Navigation Company—Tls. 75 per share.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—$75 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—$50 per share.

Chinese Imperial Loan—£102.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Bank Bills, on demand	3/10½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	3/11
Bank Bills, at 6 months' sight	3/11½
Credits, at 6 months' sight	3/11½
Documentary Bills, at 6 months' sight	4/0

ON BOMBAY.—Bank, on demand 226
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank, on demand 226
ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½

SALES ON FEBRUARY 16TH, AS REPORTED BY CHINESE.

Yellow Peas—500 piculs, at $1.83, by Hingtai to travelling trader.

Pea Oil—100 tubs, at Tls. 42.5.0, by Chunchong to travelling trader.

White Wax—3 pieces, at $73.00, by Chunchong to travelling trader.

White Sugar—200 bags, at $5.10, by Kwong-wing-shing to travelling trader.

Mushrooms—20 cases, at $60.00, by Chunfoong to travelling trader.

Fungus—10 bags, at $32.00, by Kwong-shunloong to travelling trader.

Cuttlefish—50 bales, at $13.20, by Mow-wo-cheung to travelling trader.

Rattans—350 piculs, at $4.40, by Yeeshuntai to travelling trader.

Garro Wood—1 case, at $400.00, by Yeeshun-tai to travelling trader.

NEWS FOR THE ENGLISH MAIL.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE BLOCKADE OF HONGKONG.

It is satisfactory to notice that the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce have adopted a letter addressed to Earl CARNARVON, giving a general approval of the proposals of His Excellency the GOVERNOR on the question of the blockade of this port by Chinese Customs cruisers. The disposition lately shown by the Imperial Government to take up the grievances of the Colony, with a view to procure their redress, has inspired new hope for the future. It is at last obvious to the home officials that there is really good ground for the complaints that have been made, and that the mercantile community here are neither grumblers without a cause nor countenancers of smuggling. But it is possible that even now the Foreign Minister is scarcely aware of all the difficulties with which the question is environed. The peculiar system the Chinese have adopted for collecting their Customs dues is at the bottom of most of the complications arising out of the action of the officials. The plan of farming out the collection of this revenue is fruitful in corruption and trickery on the part of unscrupulous officials, and ought to be protested against by the British Representative at Peking. If the actions of these officials did not affect British interests, we should, of course, have no justification for interfering in the matter; but, looking to the injury which has accrued to the native trade of Hongkong through the violent and illegal measures resorted to by the Hoppo's cruisers, there is ample cause not only for remonstrance in the case, but for insisting that the Chinese Government shall in future take care that their revenue is collected in such a manner as not to bear injuriously upon the trade of Hongkong. The suggestion of Sir ARTHUR KENNEDY, that all revenue cruisers except those under the immediate authority of the Hoppo should be suppressed, was evidently given with the utmost good faith; but His Excellency must have forgotten at the time that most of the complaints made have been preferred against this revenue-farmer. This official has, in fact, been the bane of Hongkong, and there is little prospect of any permanent relief being afforded to trade unless his power is limited. In short, not to mince matters, the real cure for the evil complained of would be the abolition of the Hoppo. There is, as far as we can see, no possible reason why, on the expiration of his present term of office, the Hoppo should not be superseded by a Customs Taotai as at Shanghai and other places. The Hoppo is, to a great extent, an irresponsible individual. His sole business is to make the utmost he can, during his short lease of office, out of the revenue. That the position is eminently lucrative is well known. The holders of it invariably make large fortunes, and can afford to be pretty freely bled by the Imperial Ministers on their arrival at Peking, besides furnishing heavy sums occasionally to provide certain extra luxuries for the Imperial Palaces. The system is thoroughly bad, and cannot fail to be productive of abuses. The Hoppo uses his power with his subordinates in fleecing junk-owners, he at all events winks at such practices. There is no doubt that some of the Chinese endeavour, with might and main, to evade the payment of the Customs taxes, for they are smugglers from instinct almost; but that does not justify the Hoppo in recouping losses from that cause by levying illegal exactions on other and innocent traders. It is useless to expect that, so long as the Hoppo remains in power, any great change for the better will be inaugurated. Promises of amendment will doubtless be made freely enough, and for a time, perhaps, the Customs officials would refrain from any positively unlawful acts, but they would eventually return to their old habit of squeezing, and complaints of their rapacity and injustice be as rife as ever. How much better it would be, then, to apply the axe to the root of the evil at once. Considering how seriously the trade of this Colony is affected by the action of the Hoppo, the British Government would be fully justified in calling for a change in the system of collection, and the appointment of an official directly responsible to the Peking Authorities and placed fully under their control. The Hon. W. KESWICK was very near the mark when he said, nothing short of the removal of the Customs cruisers and stations from the approaches to the Colony will give Hongkong the relief to which it is entitled. Past experience of Chinese doings gives plenty of warrant for this opinion, but it is questionable whether the British Government will coincide in it. It must not be forgotten that it was a British official who first recommended the establishment of these Customs stations, and much difficulty consequently surrounds the question. If, however, they are permitted to remain, it should be on the understanding that any violation of British waters will be promptly and severely resented. Further, in order to prevent such abuses of power and infractions of international right, a British gun-vessel should be kept cruising about the approaches to the harbour, with instructions to make short work of any Chinese cruiser caught violating British waters. These suggestions are offered as supplementary to Sir ARTHUR KENNEDY'S two latter proposals, which are of themselves calculated to greatly simplify matters, and are quite unexceptionable, as far as they go. The GOVERNOR admits they are but an instalment of what the Colony is entitled to ask, and it is surely not too much to ask Lord DERBY to insist upon the removal of the Hoppo. He has only to say it must be so, and the Chinese Government would consent to the change.

HONGKONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The yearly general meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce was held in the City Hall Building on the 3rd instant. There were present:—Hon. P. Ryrie (in the chair), J. Greig (vice-chairman), Hon. W. Keswick, Messrs. J. F. Cordes, Bellios, Hassell, André, Hoppius, MacIver, Karberg, Sandeman, Jackson, G. Sharp, F. D. Sassoon, H. Nelson, De Guigne, Kahn, Strack, Tobin, and Blakeman, (secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as read and passed.

Mr. KARBERG seconded. The motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN then laid the Report of the past year before the meeting, which was printed. He remarked that there was one thing in it which was quite new—viz., the opening of Kiungchow. They had very little information about it as yet, and the Committee would be glad if the members would carefully read what had been said concerning it. Touching the much-vexed question of the blockade of our port, he congratulated the members on the fact that at last the authorities were beginning to look at the question in a proper light. They were all aware what the Governor, Sir Arthur Kennedy, had stated, and, as far as he (the Chairman) could see, the agitation had evidently done them a little good. The Government now fully admitted that the inhabitants of this Colony have a very serious grievance to complain of; and the only wonder to him was, and had been from the beginning, that those representing H.M.'s Government in these parts had not at once seen and set their faces against the proceedings complained of. He was glad to say that the authorities were apparently in earnest, and he hoped they would soon see some practical result in the shape of some relief from the disadvantages under which they had so long suffered. The Committee had been of opinion that the Chamber should support the Government in this matter; and with that object a letter had been prepared which would have that effect. The letter would be open to discussion, and alteration or addition. The next question was the revision of the Stamp Act. The steps which had been taken would be found detailed in the report of the Sub-Committee. He had been of opinion all along that the tax on Bank notes pressed somewhat heavily on the issuing banks, and that if a reduction could be arrived at, it would be a great boon. The difficulty was how to meet the Military Contribution, which, owing to the serious decline in exchange, would now be larger than before. As the Government have admitted that the Special Fund can be used, he did not see why it should not be stretched even for this. Referring to the opening of Tonquin, the Chairman remarked that there was little information before the Chamber, as it was difficult to learn much about the place. There did not seem to be any large rush of mercantile establishments to the place, and it would be a number of years before the trade could develop, which at present was not very important. Concerning the opening of Kiungchow, the paragraph might call for remark from some members who may not agree with the Committee. Of Postal rates, the Chamber's Committee had not expressed an opinion, though it was very hard that we had to pay so much more to England than to any other part of Europe. The Chairman then came to the retirement of their Secretary. He was sure that every member would regret the Secretary's retirement, and with him hope that he would by his removal better his prospects. They would all agree as to the efficient manner in which he had discharged his duties.—(Applause). As Chairman he could say that on every occasion the Secretary had shown great zeal for the welfare of the Chamber: he had always been most ready and willing to aid the Committee with any correspondence that was in hand. The Chairman concluded by remarking that the Funds were much as they were; he regretted the loss of several members, but hoped that new members would soon fill up the list. He moved the adoption of the Report, and the Secretary's accounts.

The following is the Report:—

The Committee beg to place before the Members of the Chamber the following Report of their proceedings for the year ending 31st December, 1875.

THE BLOCKADE OF THE PORT OF HONGKONG BY CHINESE CUSTOMS' CRUISERS.

This question still continues the leading topic of the Annual Report, but the Committee view with much satisfaction the progress that has been made during the past year, towards a better understanding of the whole question by the Home Government, and there is every reason to believe, that satisfactory results are now about to be obtained.

Since the last meeting of the Chamber, a reply to the Memorial was received from Lord Carnarvon, and lately, a number of despatches upon the subject have been read by His Excellency the Governor, before the Legislative Council, which point to a definite policy on the part of Her Majesty's Government, with respect to the subject, which, if supported and pressed, must prove beneficial to local interests. These clearly show the interest which Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State takes in the Colony. The Committee have, accordingly, deemed it incumbent upon the Chamber to now again take the subject in hand, and use whatever means may be found most advantageous to strengthen the hands of His Excellency the Governor, as far as possible, in the recommendations he has put forward. With this view, the Committee have drawn up another letter upon the subject, draft copies of which are now upon the table, and which, if approved of at this Meeting with respect to its general tenour, will be forwarded at once through His Excellency the Governor.

REVISION OF THE STAMP ACT.

At the last meeting of the Chamber, a resolution was passed to the effect that the Government should be memorialised praying for a revision of the Stamp Act. The question was, accordingly, fully discussed in Committee, and finally referred to a Sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Greig, Nelson, and Dalrymple, who have since had the matter in their charge. A very full Report upon the whole subject has been drawn up by them, and this, together with their correspondence with the Government, is appended herewith, and it will be for the meeting to decide what further steps, if any, shall be taken.

TONQUIN.

Since the last Report, two ports in Tonquin have been opened to foreign trade, but so far as can be gathered from those who have visited them, they have not come up to the expectations formed of them as trade marts; their capabilities may, however, be developed hereafter, when foreigners have settled themselves there and erected suitable premises for carrying on business. In the meantime, the Committee have not thought it advisable to avail of the funds voted at the last annual meeting for the purpose of sending down a delegate on behalf of the Chamber.

OPENING OF THE PORT OF KIUNGCHOW IN THE ISLAND OF HAINAN.

The Local Government have informed the Chamber that a despatch has been received from Sir Thomas Francis Wade, K.C.B., to the effect that the above port is shortly to be opened to British trade. This announcement should, in some degree, be satisfactory to this Chamber, as it advocated the opening to the port some years ago. Since then, however, more recent and accurate reports of its capabilities as a place of trade, have been received by the Chamber, and these reports being by no means favourable the Committee would have heard with greater satisfaction, that a port on the mainland of China was going to be opened, say that of Pak-hoi. Should it, however, prove (and the Committee think it may be possible) that this step is to be taken as the inauguration of a new line of policy towards China, and that for the future the British Government intend to insist on the observance by China of all her Treaty obligations, which she has so notoriously evaded of late years, then the opening of Kiungchow may be a subject for congratulation.

POSTAL RATES.

The Committee have had this question under consideration, and they are now in correspondence with the Shanghai Chamber, in order that both bodies may co-operate in making representations to the Postmaster-General, with a view to obtaining some reduction upon the rates now charged upon all correspondence from the various ports of China.

MEMBERS.

During the past year, the following members have retired from the Chamber:—The Eastern Extension, Australasia, and China Telegraph Company, Limited, and Baron de Overbeck.

COMMITTEE.

According to the Rules of the Chamber, the term of office of the present Committee expires at this meeting, and a new election must take place for the current year.

SECRETARY.

Mr. Blakeman having tendered his resignation to the Committee as Secretary to the Chamber, on account of his departure from China, the same has been accepted, and Dr. N. B. Dennys has been elected to the vacancy, which election, under Rule XII. of the Rules and Regulations, the Committee would request the meeting to confirm.

LIBRARY.

The Library has received the valuable donation from Dr. Eitel of a copy of Sir Macdonald Stephenson's Sketch Map of Railways in China, of which only a few copies are now in existence. [Here follows a list of books, &c.].

FUNDS.

The Secretary's Account Current for the year ending December 31st, 1875, has been audited by Messrs. Kerr and Hassell, and is annexed herewith. A slight falling off in the revenue for the current year will result from the resignations of the

Chamber, but before doing so the Committee have deemed it as advisable to ascertain the views of the Government respecting the proposed memorial in order that as far as possible the Chamber may act in accord.

I have, therefore, the honor to hand you for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor, a short statement of the recommendations the Committee are prepared to make to the Chamber, to be embodied in a memorial, from which it will be observed that the most important changes are those which relate to "Bank Note Circulation," and "Bills of Exchange," these two items representing about sixty per cent. of the total Stamp revenue now collected. With respect to the first, viz:—"Bank Note Circulation," the Committee have considered that as the non-issuing Banks in the Colony derive great benefit from the local note circulation, they should accordingly pay for the advantage, and this has accordingly been introduced as the basis of the new scheme.

With respect to the revenue to be realized under the revised Schedule, with the exception of "Bills of Exchange," it is estimated that there would be a slight increase over the present receipts; regarding Bills of Exchange, however, the Committee have been unable to form any estimate of the probable revenue under the sliding scale now recommended, for the reason that bills sent in to be stamped are almost invariably in blank; it has, however, been suggested that if the Government would apply to the various local banks for such information as would enable an estimate to be made, the information would be readily afforded and a reliable and sufficient answer would be given as to the feasibility or otherwise of the proposed system.

It is not the intention of the Committee to here enter upon any argument respecting the various changes recommended; it is their desire merely to obtain the views of the Government, so far as consistent, respecting the general principles set forth in the enclosed statement, and regarding the suggestion mentioned above, which it may be observed has already been hinted at in a memorandum upon the subject drawn up by the present collector of Stamp Revenue, which the Committee have had the benefit of perusing.

I have the honor to be, &c,

(Signed) JAMES GREIG,

Chairman of Sub-Committee.

Honourable J. Gardiner Austin,
Colonial Secretary, &c &c.,

Mr. SHARP thanked Mr. Greig for reading the correspondence. It was evidently the intention of those who proposed this scheme of revision to lessen the pressure of these Stamp duties upon a section of the public. The speaker believed that of all taxes—and they were very heavy in Hongkong—the Stamp Tax was the least oppressive, being borne principally by non-residents, by those at a distance, who derived advantage from the trade transacted in the Colony without enduring the trial and hardship of living here. Where was the justice, he enquired, of taxing heavily those who were fuming and fussing in the heat of the tropics whilst those at home were serenely deriving the advantage and contributing little or nothing towards the cost of governing the Island? Of the four Banks of issue who would be benefitted by the reduction of the stamps on Bank notes?—the shares of one only were at all held in China; and of three others perhaps no individual in the Colony held a single share. It was an entire reversal of the general order to tax our own people and let strangers go free. He (Mr. Sharp) had had a somewhat extensive acquaintance with the natives, by whom a very large proportion, if not the principal share, of the business of the place is now transacted, and he believed the Stamp Act was favourably regarded by them; and were it reduced in amount some other tax must be substituted which would be much more oppressive in its bearing. The speaker considered that instead of lessening the Stamp duties some of these in the schedule might advantageously be doubled (Cries of "No, no," and loud expressions of dissent), and thus relief be afforded to those who were at present altogether overweighted in respect to the burdens upon property in the Colony. These, he said, were regarded by many of those best informed to be utterly indefensible, and most injurious in their operation. Crown rents and rates and taxes upon house property were as heavy as to drive industry and manufacture away to Canton and Macao, and but for these a very much greater degree of development might have been reached. Mr. Sharp said that he thoroughly agreed with the recommendation of the Committee that bills of exchange be charged an *ad valorem* stamp, as it was manifestly unjust that a bill for $3,000 should bear the same stamp as one for $30,000 or for $300,000, but he felt bound firmly to protest against any endeavours to obtain a diminution of the Stamp duties.

Mr. J. G. T. HASSELL asked why Mr. Sharp had not previously made the Chamber acquainted with his views.

Mr. SHARP replied that he believed most of the senior colonists were well acquainted with his opinion upon the Stamp Act, which had been very publicly and plainly enunciated at the time when it was first introduced; and that in reference to the proposal to endeavour to obtain a revision of the Act he was not able to express any opinion until it was known what course the committee would adopt.

Mr. HOPPIUS enquired whether voting for the Report necessarily implied a concurrence in the recommendation of the Stamp Committee.

The CHAIRMAN replied that he thought it did not.

The Report was then carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the adoption of the Committee's Report for the past year, and adverted to the draft letter which was proposed to be sent to the Earl of Carnarvon on the blockade question. The members were asked to approve of the general tenour of it. If any one had any alterations to make, he could either do so now or leave the matter with the Committee.

Mr. SHARP, being called upon by the Chairman, rose to thank the Committee for the trouble they had taken in the matter of the Blockade, and to express his congratulations upon the improved prospects of the agitation. Owing to the representations which His Excellency the Governor had made when at home, and also to events which had recently happened in the neighbourhood, the attention of the Imperial Government had at length been aroused, and there could be no doubt of the sincere interest which was manifested in the representations which had been forwarded through the local government. The Chamber had embodied in the proposed letter to Earl Carnarvon the most valuable suggestions of the Governor. He (Mr. Sharp) considered that when we had succeeded in removing all the cruisers except those employed by the Hoppo, the next thing would be to obtain the abolition and utter removal of these also, as it was the Hoppo himself from whom most of the mischief emanated. A very general accordance of opinion had been shown at the public meeting which was held in that building on the subject of the Blockade, and it was quite clear that that effort and those which were subsequently made had not been lost; but the speaker remarked we were not then unanimous, one of the oldest and most experienced colonists having defended the course pursued by the Chinese. Mr. Sharp was glad to see that Mr. Whittall had more views expressed at the meeting, and in the letter which he had recently addressed to Sir Arthur Kennedy, speaking for himself, for Mr. Jardine, and others interested in the China trade, he had struck the key-note of the whole matter in the axiom laid down that the proper place for collecting import duties is not the port of shipment, but that of discharge, where alone the responsibility should lie.

The CHAIRMAN here remarked that it was very satisfactory to the Chamber to learn that Mr. Whittall's opinions of the Blockade had entirely changed since the public meeting.

Hon. W. KESWICK read some alterations which he proposed in the draft, and remarked that he was of opinion that there was one point which should be made a prominent one in this letter, and which the Chamber should insist upon, and that was, that the measures now proposed should be accepted as satisfactory, only as *temporary* measures, but that nothing short of the total abolition of the "Blockade" could be accepted as conclusively and effectively meeting the complaints sought to be remedied. To this relief Hongkong, as a British Colony, was entitled, and it should be insisted upon until effected. This was the point he sought to make more clear and emphatic in the amendments he proposed.

These amendments having been read,

Mr. SHARP proposed the adoption of the letter embodying the suggestions of the Hon. Mr. Keswick and also those of the Chairman.

Mr. HOPPIUS seconded, and it was agreed to.

Subjoined are copies of the letters as ultimately sent:—

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1876.

SIR,—By desire of the Committee of this Chamber I have the honor to enclose herein a letter (in triplicate) addressed to the Right Honorable the Earl of Carnarvon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of the Blockade of the Port, which I have to request that His Excellency the Governor will forward.

The Committee desire me to avail of this opportunity to respectfully submit to His Excellency their opinion that regulations might be made in regard to the entrance to and departure from this harbour of the Hoppo's cruizers and their tenders, which would materially check their predatory operations. The Committee are informed that at Gibraltar the Spanish guarda costas are not permitted to enter British waters on any pretext whatever.

I would also beg to state as their opinion that it is most unfortunate that the Government have thought fit to accord to the vessels in question the status of men-of-war, to which they are in no respect entitled—the only warfare they carry on being against the commerce of this Colony.

I have the honor to remain, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Signed) P. RYRIE,
Chairman.

The Honorable
J. Gardiner Austin,
Colonial Secretary, &c., &c., &c.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Hongkong, 8th February, 1876.

MY LORD,—This Chamber begs most respectfully to again address Your Lordship on the subject of the Blockade of the Port.

It had been the intention to point out to Your Lordship the incorrectness of certain statements, and the unsoundness of certain arguments put forth by parties defending the action of the Hoppo, and which appeared in a Parliamentary Blue Book issued in April, 1875, entitled—"Correspondence relating to the Complaints of the Mercantile Community in Hongkong against the action of Chinese Revenue Cruizers in the neighbourhood of the Colony." These statements and arguments attempted to prove:—

1st.—That the complaints made by the Chinese traders were, for the most part, groundless, and that no honest trader suffered in any way from the action of the Hoppo's cruizers, and from the stations established at the entrances to the Port.

2nd.—That the Colony was in no way injured by the so called Blockade.

3rd.—That if certain irregularities had been committed on former occasions, there was no chance of their recurrence, because of the appointment of Mr. Thomas Marsh Brown, to superintend the proceedings of the blockading vessels.

There is now no necessity to enter on the discussion of the above points, as from certain of Your Lordship's despatches, which were read by His Excellency Governor Sir Arthur Kennedy, at a meeting of the Legislative Council held on January 7th last, this Chamber—and it may be said the entire Community—learned with great satisfaction, that Your Lordship is convinced that the inhabitants have just cause of complaint, and also that Your Lordship is aware, from fresh facts placed before you by the Local Government, that arbitrary and illegal exactions and seizures have continued, and indeed still continue, to be made.

With reference to the arrangements suggested by Sir Arthur Kennedy, viz.:—

"That the Chinese Government should be called on to furnish a copy of the tariff of duties leviable on all merchandise, and regulations relating thereto, with the names and locations of all stations where duties are collected, and that a Mixed Court composed of British and Chinese Officials be appointed to sit, either in this Colony or in Kowloon, and try publicly all cases of alleged smuggling on the part of traders, or illegal exactions or seizures on the part of Customs Officials,"—

this Chamber is of opinion that these would (always assuming that the Chinese Officials appointed to the Court are in no way connected with the Customs department) ameliorate, to some extent, the evils under which the Chinese trading community of this Colony are suffering, and at any rate check the wholesale plundering and confiscation which has hitherto been so common. This Chamber therefore heartily approves of these suggestions as steps in a direction that will give temporary relief, and afford time for Her Majesty's Government to prevail on China to discontinue the Blockade altogether, to collect its duties at its own ports and tradal marts, and abandon the unfriendly attitude it has so long maintained towards this Colony. Nothing short of the entire withdrawal of the cruizers and the removal of the stations that surround the island, and which bar the approaches to the harbour, can prove permanently satisfactory, and this Chamber trusts that measures of a less comprehensive character will only be accepted as of temporary application; for so long as duties are levied on the trade of this Colony (which is in effect done at present, and which it is not clear that the new arrangements contemplated will wholly prevent), so long will these revenues be viewed as Imperial, and therefore not exempting the merchandise sent to the mainland from the duties and taxes usually exacted.

The plea put forward by the Chinese Government in extenuation of its proceedings, viz., "that the number of entrances to the Canton river, and other routes admitting of ingress to and egress from the interior of the province being so great, they are unable to protect their revenue in any other way than blockading the approaches to Hongkong," this Chamber knows to be purely fallacious, as every creek, river, or inlet by which merchandise can be waterborne, and every road or pass by which it can be carried by land, has its barrier and Customs station at which duties can be levied.

The Members of this Chamber also beg to express to Your Lordship the satisfaction they experienced at hearing that the idea of the appointment of a Chinese Consul at this port was no longer entertained. Their opinions, as to the effect of such an appointment, are already before Your Lordship, and with reference to the establishment of a branch of the foreign inspectorate here, towards which it is understood that some unauthorised persons have been exerting themselves,—they earnestly hope that the proposal will never receive the assent of Her Majesty's Government. Such an establishment would not attain the object in view, that of freeing merchandise after leaving this Colony from further impositions; it would divest the Colony of every vestige of its pretensions to a free port, and which is still a more serious objection would involve a loss of dignity to the Crown, subvert the Royal authority among the native population of the Colony, lower the respect in which the British Government is now held, and render of no avail the protection which it extends to the thousands of Chinese located here.

In conclusion, I am directed by the Chamber to thank Your Lordship for the very great interest you have shown in the welfare of this Community, and to express a hope that no time will now be lost in carrying into effect, as temporary remedies, the suggestions made by

Please turn back to 2d.

Your Lordship's
Most obedient Humble Servant,
(Signed) P. RYRIE,
Chairman.

To the Right Honourable
The Earl of Carnarvon,
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies, &c., &c., &c.

The CHAIRMAN then proceeded to the consideration of the paragraph in the Report referring to the Stamp Act. He asked the meeting to state whether further action in the matter was necessary or not. His own views had always been that the tax on Bank notes was too heavy, but he was afraid that the other alteration suggested by the Committee would not be found practicable or meet with favour. He was quite sure that the non-issuing Banks would strongly oppose the imposition of a tax on them. The charge of $5 which the Committee proposed to put upon powers of attorney was too high. Of course, if the power of attorney referred to the transaction of a large business, the amount was not too much, but if it was given for the purpose of only transferring some shares, the duty would be too heavy.

The Hon. W. KESWICK thought further steps were not necessary, and made a proposition to that effect.

Mr. ANDRE seconded.

Mr. H. B. NELSON proposed an amendment that the matter should be gone on with. He thought the method of collecting the duty was not satisfactory. It did not come upon the people fairly and equitably. It was unfair that the same rate should be charged on a promissory note for $3,000, $30,000, or $40,000, or the same duty on a draft for $100, as for $1,000. He said that the note issue was a great convenience and saving of expense to the non-issuing Banks, and that it was only fair that they should be called on to pay a portion of the tax.

Mr. CORDES seconded the amendment.

Mr. DE GUIGNE strongly objected to the yearly charge of $1,000 to be levied on the non-issuing Banks. He could see no reason why they should be taxed for nothing. He denied that the non-issuing Banks derived any benefit from the notes issued by other Banks. He saw no reason why the issuing banks should not stop their issues, and the Government only should issue. This was done in India.

Mr. HOPPIUS was in favour of the amendment, although he disapproved of some of the Committee's suggestions especially their sliding scale of Stamps on Bills. To increase the stamp duty 50 cents on every thousand dollars was equivalent to taxing the whole trade of Hongkong a half per mille. This was too much.

The amendment was then put to the meeting, but was lost, there being only five votes for it.

The original motion was then put, and carried by a great majority.

The CHAIRMAN next referred to the Postal Rates. He said this subject was now engaging the attention of the Committee, and that the new Committee should act in accord with the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, with which correspondence on the matter had been already made.

Mr. SHARP asked whether it was true that the French mail steamers carried letters from Saigon to Marseilles for the French Government at a cheaper rate.

The CHAIRMAN said that no one appeared to know whether it was the case or not.

The following Committee was then elected by ballot:—Messrs. André, Kahn, Bellilios, Karberg, Nelson, Keswick, Dalrymple, Ryrie, and Hoppius. There was a tie between Messrs. Jackson and Hoppius, but the former begged to retire in favour of the latter.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed that the Hon. W. Keswick take the chair, and Mr. Kahn the vice-chair.

Mr. KESWICK said he was much obliged for the offer, but he had some diffidence in accepting it. He thought that, in view of the able way in which Mr. Ryrie had discharged the duties of Chairman, he ought to be asked to continue.

The CHAIRMAN hesitated, but said he would leave it to the meeting.—(Applause.) This appeared to settle the matter.

On the motion of Mr. NELSON, seconded by Mr. KAHN, Mr. Keswick was elected Vice-Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN proposed, and Mr. CORDES seconded, that the election of Dr. N. B. Dennys as Secretary be confirmed by the Meeting. The proposition was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. KESWICK then said that the changes recently promulgated in regard to Telegraphic charges had brought their excess home to them so vividly that it was not necessary to remind them that most strenuous efforts should be made to get a change effected. Not only the actual charges, but the arrangements and rules by which messages were received and forwarded required revision. He was glad to see that in England very strong opposition had been expressed, and it was desirable that they should do the same thing on this side. Doubtless the other ports would join their representations, or take independent action in the matter; and he though that, as soon as they properly understood the working of the present rules, they should address the proper authorities in order to get some amelioration of the conditions. He thought this should be taken up at once by the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN, in seconding this motion, agreed with Mr. Keswick that this should be taken in hand at once. There was nothing more vexatious, and he might say absurd, than the present telegraphic rules and charges. He was certain that the Companies would lose by their new rates, though their object might be to take away business from Reuter's and other agencies. For his own part, he certainly would now be very careful to telegraph as little as possible; and now that these regulations had come into force he would cut down his expenditure under that head materially. This point should be particularly brought before those Companies, and he hoped that a unanimous opinion would have a good effect. They ought to express the views of the mercantile community very firmly on this subject.

Mr. NELSON had an impression that the Telegraph Companies would gain by the change. The Companies were somewhat arbitrary in their manner; but he thought there was no necessity for dealing with the question of loss or gain. They would soon find that out for themselves.

The CHAIRMAN admitted that, if the Telegraph Companies found it paid them, all the Chambers of Commerce in the world would not make them alter the present rules.

Mr. KAHN remarked that, as the Great Northern had been more liberal than the Southern Company, they ought to bring pressure to bear on the latter.

The CHAIRMAN—Then let us send our messages by the Northern line.

Mr. KARBERG observed that a new line was proposed. They should assist it as much as possible; it was their only remedy.

Mr. KAHN was understood to say that the Extension line pleaded that they could not help it, as the Indian Government insisted on taxing all messages passing over their lines.

The CHAIRMAN said there was no other business before them; and the meeting then separated.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the twenty-first Report of the Court of Directors to the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, to-day:—

GENTLEMEN,—The Directors have now to submit to you a general Statement of the affairs of the Corporation, and Balance Sheet for the half-year ending 31st December last.

The net profits for that period, including $103,026 brought forward from last account, after paying all charges and deducting interest paid and due, amount to $336,713.49, of which, after taking out Rebate on Bills not yet due, and Remuneration to Directors, there remains for appropriation $314,111.51.

From this sum the Directors recommend the distribution of a Dividend of $3.75 per Share, being equivalent to 3 per cent. for the half-year (or 6 per cent. per annum); this will absorb $150,000, and, of the balance, they propose retaining in Contingent Account $145,000, to meet losses already incurred and further eventual losses on present outstandings, carrying the balance of $19,111.51 to the credit of new Profit and Loss Account.

The Directors regard the half-year's profit as satisfactory, and they are happy in being able to recommend a moderate dividend to the Shareholders, while providing for all bad and doubtful debts, old and new, and leaving the Reserve Fund untouched.

The Directors have pleasure in informing the Shareholders that the anticipations with regard to "doubtful accounts" expressed in the last Report have been more than realized.

During the past half-year, numerous failures have again taken place, by some of which, amongst others, this Bank has sustained losses. These, however, are fully provided for in the amount proposed to be retained in Contingent Account.

The Directors congratulate the Shareholders on the improved position of the Bank's affairs generally, and they look with confidence to a successful future.

LOCAL COMMITTEE IN LONDON.

The Directors have appointed the following gentlemen to act as a Consultative Committee in London, viz:—Mr. A. H. Phillpotts, Director of London and County Bank; Mr. E. F. Duncanson, of Messrs. T. A. Gibb & Co.; Mr. Albert Deacon, of Messrs. E. & A. Deacon.

AGENCIES.

Special Agents have recently been appointed at San Francisco and Manila.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. Wm. H. Forbes resigned his seat at the Board on leaving the Colony, and Mr. S. W. Pomeroy has been appointed in his stead.

In conformity with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, two members of the Court, Messrs. E. R. Bellilios and J. F. Cordes, retire from the Direction, but they are eligible for re-election and offer themselves accordingly.

Mr. E. R. Bellilios has been appointed Chairman of the Corporation for 1876, vice Mr. Adolf André, whose term of office now expires, and the latter gentleman has been elected Deputy Chairman.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by the Honourable Phineas Ryrie and Mr. M. B. Gibb, and the Directors have pleasure in recommending the re-election of these gentlemen as Auditors for the year 1876.

CHIEF MANAGEMENT.

Mr. James Greig has been granted a year's furlough, and, during his absence, Mr. Thomas Jackson has been appointed to act as Chief Manager.

ADOLF ANDRE, Chairman.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the Report of the General Managers, to be presented at the seventh Ordinary Meeting of the shareholders, to be held at 3 o'clock p.m. to-day:—

The General Managers have now to submit to the shareholders the Annexed Statement of the Business of the Company made up to the 31st December, 1875, showing for the year 1874 a net profit of $184,760, and for 1875 a balance of $218,624.68 at credit of the Working Account.

In accordance with the Articles of Association the Profit for the year 1874 has to be appropriated as follows:—

30 per cent. to Reserve Fund (thus increasing the same to $607,202) =	$55,428
20 per cent. to Contributing Shareholders (amounting to 21,273 per cent. on contribution) =	$36,952
50 per cent. Dividend to Shareholders = $46.19 per share (amounting to 23,095 per cent. on paid up capital) =	$92,380
	$184,760

The Working Account for 1875 shows a balance of $218,624.68 in favour of the Company; from this, however, nearly $20,000, will have to be deducted to provide for losses ascertained up to date.

Reference to the Statement for 1875 will show that the year has not proved so free from casualties as preceding ones, but as the receipts of premium have been fully maintained and the Interest Account has improved, the General Managers trust that the result shown will be considered satisfactory.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Departures from the Colony caused two vacancies which have been filled by the appointment of Messrs. J. P. Barnes and A. T. Manger, and the existing Committee, consisting of the two gentlemen just named, and Messrs. J. J. dos Remedios, H. Nicaise, and A. André offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The departure of Mr. F. W. Mitchell caused a vacancy which has been filled by the appointment of Mr. A. Coxon, and he and Mr. Henry Smith are recommended for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 8th February, 1876.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following Report will be presented to the shareholders at the seventh Ordinary Meeting, to be held at the Company's offices, at half-past 3 o'clock, p.m., to-morrow:—

REPORT.

The Directors have now the pleasure to present a Statement of the Company's Accounts made up to the 31st December 1875.

The Net Profit for the year 1874 is shown to be as follows:—	
Balance at Credit of "Working Account," as per last Report	$99,870.39
Deduct Losses and Claims paid in 1875	1,075.19
Net Profit	$67,895.20

Of this sum the directors propose, under Sec. 94 of the Articles of Association, to appropriate $22,036.70 to the payment of a Bonus of 20 per cent. to Contributing Shareholders, and to add the balance of $45,858.50 to Reserve Fund, which will then amount to $294,472.80.

The result of the Company's work during the year 1875 shows a fair increase over that of the previous year, and this notwithstanding a heavier amount paid for losses which have occurred. The Company, in conjunction with the "Hongkong Fire Insurance Company," took over the current risks of the late "Victoria Fire Insurance Company" on the 1st June last, the premium received in respect of which was $12,118.74. A claim of $5,750 is outstanding against the Company, which at present forms the subject of an arbitration.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. W. H. Forbes resigned his seat at the Board on the occasion of his departure from the Colony, and the directors have elected Mr. S. W. Pomeroy to succeed him. This appointment requires the confirmation of shareholders.

Messrs. Hoppius and McIver retire from the direction in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association, and both gentlemen offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Mr. Richard Deacon having left the Colony the directors appointed Mr. Edward George to audit the present accounts in connexion with Mr. C. Morland Kerr. These gentlemen offer themselves for re-election.

HENRY LOWCOCK, Chairman.

THE HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB AT AMOY.

The umpire and eleven deputed to represent the Hongkong Cricket Club returned on the 2nd instant from Amoy, whither they had gone to take part in one of those friendly contests that occasionally occur between this and the Coast Ports. Circumstances prevented the whole party proceeding to Amoy together, so the first detachment left in the *Kwangtung* on the 19th ult., and the remainder followed in the *Douglas* on the 23rd. We will not harrow the feelings of our readers by describing the sufferings of some of these adventurers on their trip North in support of the honour of the Hongkong Cricket Club. Some conquered, others fought gallantly, but the majority were only seen in the grateful refuge of Swatow Harbour. On arrival the distressed travellers were glad to avail themselves of the ready hospitality of Ku Lung Su. The 22nd was devoted to a pleasant picnic; the workmanlike costume of most of the party leading one to suppose that some great feat of pedestrianism was to be achieved; but better judgment (of course no reminiscence of experience on board the lively *Kwangtung* having anything to do with it) prevailed, and the steam launch turned back before reaching the foot of the Nam Boo Hill, the summit of which everybody had previously sworn to attain. Luncheon was spread near a Joss House in the Happy Valley, where ample justice was done to it.

On the 24th and 25th the Races took place on the Parade Ground of the Chinese troops. The course is rather less than half-a-mile in circuit, and spectators were thus enabled to watch the ponies through each race without the awkward intervention of opera glasses. The events were well contested, the usual number of certainties and surprises came off, due consideration was had to the supply of refreshments, winners looked happy, and losers maintained a judicious reserve. The 26th, Chinese New Year's Day, passed quietly. It had been intended to hold a third day's racing, but an unusually heavy fall of rain during the night rendered it unsafe to risk the ponies on the course, which had become swampy.

The 27th and 28th were occupied by the Cricket Match, Amoy winning the toss sent Hongkong to the wickets. The ground at first sight looked small, but this turned out to be an optical delusion, as, with the exception of one or two hits, it proved quite large enough for the batting powers of Amoy and Hongkong in one innings. The only points worth notice were the steady innings of Messrs. Taylor, Spinney, and Manson, the first named of whom hit a ball very cleanly to leg over the roof of an adjacent house and secured six runs by so doing; the successful bowling of Mr. Watson, an ex-Secretary of the Hongkong Cricket Club, must also be noted. With the second innings the interest commenced, Amoy was 8 runs ahead, and the Hongkongites were beginning to think that perhaps their eleven was not quite strong enough for the work before it. The fall of three wickets for 35 left matters doubtful, but at ann-down Messrs. Head and Taylor being still in, and the score at 50, the visitors were permitted to enjoy the amusements of the evening with more cheerful spirits. Play commenced at 11.15 on the following day (would that the Hongkong Cricket Club would show equally laudable punctuality!) and at 1 p.m. Messrs. Taylor and Head were still batting, and the score stood at 150. Then Mr. Head retired to a catch in the slips, after having made a good slashing innings of 77 runs. The other members of the eleven, whether acting on the impression that if they got runs the match would be drawn by time, or, what is more probable, finding the bowling too strong for them, retired in rapid succession, leaving Mr. Taylor not out with a score of 28 runs, obtained by steady play during three hours. The innings closed for 166 runs, leaving Amoy 158 to make to win.

Amoy then sent Dr. Manson and Mr. Sproule to the wickets, to the bowling of Messrs. Head and Travers, but matters did not look serious for Hongkong until Messrs. Spinney and Saunderson seemed to be inclined to become permanent fixtures at the wickets. The former gentleman obtained well deserved praise for his exertions in the match; although a comparative novice at the game, he secured double figures in each innings, and proved himself no less dangerous as a bowler, than effective as a batsman. A well-bowled ball from Mr. Head at last took his wicket; but he was replaced by Mr. McIver, and again matters looked threatening for the outside, as Mr. Saunderson was scoring up runs very quickly. Messrs. Head and Travers, who had been bowling, were temporarily relieved, and on their again resuming work the wickets began to fall, until at length the Amoy innings closed for 110 runs of which Mr. Saunderson had made 54, and only then retired by playing a ball on to his wicket. The Hongkong Cricket Club thus won a well contested match by 58 runs. The misguided and rash youth, who ventured to regard the match as a certainty for the Hongkong eleven by irreverently exclaiming that it was Tayl or Head on the Hongkong Club was very nearly being most unpleasantly deceived. The greatest credit was due on the one side to Messrs. Saunderson and Spinney, and on the other side to Messrs. Head, Taylor, and Travers.

Subjoined is the score:—

HONGKONG.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Mr. W. M. Deane, b. Watson	2	b. Spinney	0
Mr. J. C. D. Jones, c. Sproule, b. Watson	0	b. McIver	1
Mr. F. S. Head, b. McIver	8	c. Saunderson, b. Spinney	11
Mr. H. H. Taylor, b. Watson	22	not out	77
Mr. R. Travers, b. Watson	10	b. Watson	28
Mr. W. de Rusett, c. Saunderson, b. Watson	0	c. Bird, b. Watson	2
Mr. R. Blackwell, b. Watson	4	b. Spinney	0
Major Badgen, R.A. b. Watson	5	c. substitute, b. Watson	5
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple, st. Saunderson, b. Watson	0	b. Spinney	3
Mr. D. R. Grant, l.b.w., b. Watson	3	b. Spinney	0
Mr. S. Hughes, not out	1	c. McIver, b. Spinney	3
b. 4, l.b. 4, w. 2	10	b. 10, l.b. 7, w. 17, n.b. 2	36
	65		105

AMOY.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
Mr. Sproule, run out	4	c. Deane, b. Head	6
Mr. W. F. Spinney, b. Travers	19	b. Head	13
Mr. J. L. Saunderson, l.b.w., b. Deane	7	b. Head	54
Mr. R. McIver, l.b.w., b. Head	2	b. Travers	10
Mr. W. Christy, run out	1	c. Budgen, b. Travers	1
Mr. W. Ferguson, b. Travers	0	c. Grant, b. Travers	2
Dr. D. Manson, b. Head	15	b. Head	1
Mr. H. A. Watson, run out	3	run out	2
Mr. W. Laidlaw, run out	0	b. Travers	2
Mr. A. J. Bruce (for Bird), b. Head	3	c. Black, b. Head	2
Mr. T. G. Harkness, not out	2	not out	0
b. 3, l.b. 3, w. 9	15	b. 9, l.b. 5, w. 1, n.b. 2	17
	71		110

On the evening of the 27th some pleasing performances took place in the small but useful theatre. The pieces selected were "A Delicate Question" and "Betsy Baker," which were well acted by the local amateurs, whose success was greatly assisted by the able support of two of the ladies of Amoy.

On the following evening, a ball was given at one of the private houses, to which the eleven were invited. Here again the spirit and cordiality which so distinguished the Amoy Community afforded the visitors a most pleasant evening.

The next day was devoted to extra races for presentation cups and for the decision of matches; the intervals on this and the preceding day being filled up with matches between representatives of the Coast Ports and Hongkong at bowls, billiards, and requests—in all of which games the former proved easily successful.

Another afternoon was devoted to picnics—two parties of about twenty each starting respectively for different destinations in the steam launch or on ponies. The river picnic was not marked by any extraordinary event, but only afforded another proof of the hearty good-will and boundless hospitality of one of the well known residents in Amoy. It will be perhaps best to pass most rapidly over the events that distinguished the other entertainment. We will, therefore, only touch on certain accidents that happened,—how that the ponies had not yet distinguished between the duties required of them as racers and hacks, and in some cases went faster than they ought to have done; how one distinguished visitor charged a fort, another a village, a third steep rocks and deep chasms—whilst a fourth leaped into the sea and reappeared very damp and somewhat soiled with the sand. All, however, returned well pleased with their afternoon's amusement.

The *Douglas* having arrived, the eleven took a sad farewell of Amoy, disguising their grief in numerous volleys of cheers; one and all expressing appreciation of the pleasant visit that they had had, and of the cordial hospitality of their hosts at Amoy.

On passing through Swatow, the Club and bowling alleys were kindly placed at the disposal of the eleven during the temporary detention of the steamer.

To the liberality of Messrs. Lapraik & Co. in providing passages for the eleven in the *Douglas* and *Kwangtung*, the Hongkong Cricket Club is much indebted; and on board those vessels Captains Burnie and Pitman showed their well known eagerness to make everybody comfortable.

BURNING OF THE STEAMER "HOWSANG."

The China Navigation Merchants' Steam Company's steamer *Howsang*, Captain Lamont, took fire at Shanghai at midnight of Friday the 5th instant while she was lying alongside the wharf with a full cargo for Swatow. The fire raged up to six o'clock a.m. on Saturday, and it was found impossible to subdue it without sinking the vessel. She was accordingly towed out to a shoal in the river, and some dead lights having been smashed in and a large cargo port opened, she speedily sank. Steps were at once taken to commence the work of raising the ship, which was accomplished on Sunday. The hull is insured in local offices and the owners own underwriting account for Tls. 80,000, and the cargo in the New China Marine Insurance Company for $17,000. Much of the cargo was destroyed, and the remainder is deteriorated by the action of the fire and smoke. The cost of the repairs will not be much less than Tls. 25,000. The *Howsang* was built at Glasgow less than two years ago for her present owners.

RUMOURED OPENING OF THREE MORE CHINESE PORTS TO FOREIGN TRADE.

We (*Shanghai Courier*) hear that three new ports in China are to be thrown open to foreign trade; to wit, Ichang, Wuhu and Wenchow. The question of opening the first-named of these places, has, as is well known, been frequently mooted, and received a considerable amount of public discussion. Ichang is situated toward the Western portion of Hupeh, and may almost be said to lie in the very centre of the Empire. Wenchow is the city of that name in the province of Chekiang, half way between Ningpo and Foochow, and is not to be in any way confounded with the Wan-chow on the eastern coast of Hainan, like which, however, it is frequently mis-spelt. It is on the borders of Fokien, and is a sea-port town. Its opening has been frequently spoken of before, although the question has been allowed to drop of late years; but, unless our memory fails, Sir Rutherford Alcock visited the place during his residence as Minister in Peking, with a view to its being added, eventually, to the list of Treaty-ports. Wuhu is a district city in the prefecture of Tai-ping, in the province of Anhuei, and is situated on the Yangtsze beyond Nanking. It is the centre of somewhat extensive trade, and, like Shanghai, and for the same reason, boasts a Tsa-t'ai for the supervision of its commerce. Although it has not yet been formally opened to foreign trade, river-steamers frequently call there even now to land and take up passengers, and its complete seclusion has we believe been some time talked about. If this report therefore be true—and we have reason to believe that it is so—the fact is certainly one upon which we may congratulate ourselves. We have already mentioned the establishment of a Custom-house at Kiungchow; and taking all these facts into consideration, together with the action of the Government in the working of the coal-mines in Kiangsee and Formosa, and the "tramway" which is coming out from home for employment in the latter enterprise, we hail the accomplishment, in some measure, of the predictions we have ventured to make, during the last two years, of a more progressive policy being adopted by the Chinese authorities. And we may also draw attention to the fact that the steps in question have been arrived at partly, at any rate, through the instrumentality of Mr. Robert Hart.

"Children," asked a Fayette county minister, addressing a Sunday-school, "why are we like flowers? What do we have that flowers have?" And a small boy in the infant class, whose breath smelled of vermifuge, rose up and made reply, "Worms." And the minister crept under the pulpit chair to hide his emotion.—*Burlington Hawk-Eye.*

OPPOSITION TO THE WOOSUNG RAILWAY.

The Woosung railway scheme will doubtless entail a considerable amount of trouble one way or another before the course of it runs smooth; indeed, those troubles have even now commenced. The opposition of the villagers perhaps was most apprehended, as likely to show itself in attempts to interfere with the rails, or even to tamper with the safety of passengers in the trains; but there seems to be no bad feeling upon their part as yet. The hostility has come from another and very different quarter, and the facts of the case are briefly as follow. A short time ago, a small piece of land, measuring about a mow and a half, was bought on the other side of the Woosung Creek for the railway company; a fair bargain being agreed to by the native seller and the purchaser. When the affair was concluded, however, the authorities came down unmercifully upon the unfortunate villager in question. In two words: for the crime of selling his own land to the foreign Company, he was *beaten to death*. He was sentenced, we believe, to between two and three thousand blows; but before he had received three hundred his person presented so shocking a spectacle that the executioners, or, whatever they are called,—were fain to desist. But it was too late; the poor man died shortly afterwards. Another man, who was also a party to the sale, received at different times either two thousand seven hundred, or two thousand nine hundred blows with the bamboo; while a third was summoned thirteen times and had to pay thirty dollars each time, although a poor man. Eventually he was imprisoned, and the same sum demanded as the price of his release. One of these two men last mentioned is the Tipao of the district. The case is a sufficiently flagrant one; the cruelty is inhuman enough, in all conscience; but the worst part of the whole story to our mind is the fact of the dishonesty and undeservedness which have characterised the officials throughout. No objection we hear, was made to the sale of the ground at first; the papers of transfer were officially stamped at the Tao-t'ai's yamên, and the punishment which followed was inflicted on the sly. Mr. Medhurst and Dr. Yates are taking active measures to investigate the matter, and are now engaged in correspondence with the Tao-t'ai, who, we understand, coolly repudiates all knowledge of the transaction. The case is meantime being brought before the Government, and we trust that before long the prime offender, whoever he may be, will receive the just retribution of his crime. Starting as the fact is, however, it is far from being without precedent. It is not so very long ago that a similar case, though less atrocious in degree, occurred in another direction. A

long list of military appointments. Both innovations are reported to be in deference to representations from the provinces, urging more extended publicity; and we are not hazarding a very wild surmise in suggesting that foreign newspaper enterprise has inspired the suggestion. Seeing how greatly and increasingly the Chinese newspapers of Hongkong and Shanghai are appreciated, it has probably occurred to the officials that something more interesting, or at any rate less monotonous, than tales of oppression and memorials against official corruption that end with their appearance in type, might be printed in the official organ.—*N. C. Daily News.*

We hear a rumour that Shên Pao-chên, the popular and sensible Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, is shortly to be removed to a more important post in the Capital. The inhabitants of Nanking will doubtless regret his loss, and with reason; unless, indeed, his place is filled by Ting Jih-chang—an event which, we hear, is not improbable. Ting lately succeeded Shên as Fu-kien and Inspector of the Foochow and Kiangnan Arsenals; and being an able and enlightened man, it would seem a natural arrangement were he to follow his predecessor a step higher. As for the post to which Shên has been appointed in Peking, we know nothing whatever about it; but it is always satisfactory when a sensible man, and one acquainted with foreigners, is added to the roll of officials in the metropolis, and we are gratified to see a man of Shên's calibre possessing an amount of confidence and good-will on the part of the Government that results in such very rapid promotion.

We recently mentioned the failure of a native Bank at Chinkiang; its liabilities are, we now find, much larger than they stated, amounting to no less than Tls. 200,000. Shanghai Banks lose to the extent of Tls. 60,000, of which the amount of Tls. 28,000 falls upon the Ta-yew-chong Bank. One of the managers of this bank used every exertion on the last day of the year to meet his liabilities; but being unsuccessful, took a dose of arsenic. His creditors rushed to the rescue, stationed a doctor at each bedpost and engaged seven watchmen to observe his closest movements and prevent a repetition of the suicidal act. In spite however, of the application of the stomach pump, and all the resources of native surgery, the patient got worse, and a well-known silkman sought the advice of a western doctor. His aid also was ineffectual, and the manager died on the 27th ult. It was found that he was himself indebted to the bank, and to conceal his defalcations, amounting to about Tls. 8,000, had made false entries in the books.—*Shanghai Courier.*

HANKOW.

A serious fire occurred at a large Chinese shop near the settlement of Hankow the other day, known as Ta Kên-hing, and numbering no fewer than sixty men employed in the business. The fire broke out during the night in a portion of the premises devoted to the manufacture of candles and lamps, and nine men, asleep at the time, were burnt to death. The proprietor gave Tls. 200 for each man, to his surviving relatives, as a substantial proof of his regret that the should have lost their lives in his service.

News has just reached us from Hankow that the Rev. Griffith John and Dr. Mackenzie, both of the London Missionary Society's Mission at that port, have been rather severely beaten by a mob in a village some little distance from Hankow. It appears that the missionaries had arranged to visit some of the Christian converts of outlying districts, and were on their way to do so when they were attacked by a mob which had assembled not far from the village to which they were going. They endeavoured to pacify the excited crowd, but all to no purpose, as they yelled and stoned the missionaries with vehemence, threatening their lives, crying out, "Go back to Hankow and preach your Jesus; we do not want you or Jesus here." Mr. John was bruised by the stoning, and returned to Hankow with a swollen face and lacerated head; while both have had a very narrow escape of being killed. The attack was doubtless premeditated, as it was known that the Christians of the neighbourhood were expecting a visit from the foreign missionary, and that he contemplated preaching thereabouts. The matter is now in the hands of H.B.M. Consul, and it is expected that it will be most satisfactorily settled.—*Celestial Empire.*

TIENTSIN.

Excepting occasional windy days, when the dust made itself rather conspicuous, we have had delightful weather since I last wrote you. We had a few mild days about two weeks ago, which so rotted the ice as to make it very unsafe. We heard of several Chinese being drowned as a result of their carelessness in venturing on it. Skating is again lively on the "Rink."

There are two events of interest to report. One is the successful completion and trials of the dredging machine, on which Messrs. Hill, Hammill, and Rogers have been at work for so long. The first trial was on the 30th of December. All parts of the machinery were found to be in fine working order, and gave perfect satisfaction. Just at the last, however, a slight disarrangement of some unimportant part, which was not observed at the time, caused a break, which delayed operations for a couple of days. Other trials followed, when the dredger was subjected to very severe tests of its strength in breaking up and lifting the heavily frozen earth and ice at the water's edge, as well as dipping mud from the bed of the river. On the 9th, the Chinese commenced cutting a road through the ice, so as to drop the machine down to the mouth of Powdermill Creek. Its first work is to be the of deepening channel of this creek. The machinery is from Tarbuck Bros., Troy, N.Y., and is very powerful. Every part seems to act with the utmost precision.

Another event of importance, especially to seemen coming to this port, was the successful opening of the Tientsin Temperance Hall, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 11th. The exercises consisted of singing; addresses by the Chairman of the evening, and the President of the Temperance Society, Treasurer's report, reading the constitution and bye-laws by the Secretary, and several selected readings. The Tientsin Temperance Society was organized March 1st, 1872. Incidents and statistics were given, showing how the work had progressed from year to year, and on the various gunboats; and how, from the small beginning in Tientsin in 1870-71, it had extended over China and Japan, till now in Tientsin alone 500 converts from intemperance to teetotal principles had been made; and that quite 600 seamen have been in the habit of resorting to the small room provided for them during these five years. The necessity of a larger room, and one better adapted to its wants had long been felt, but the way did not seem open sooner to accomplish the desire of the Society.

The building stands just outside the limits of the Foreign Settlement opposite the end of the street, leading from the bund, which separates the British and French Concessions, is visible from the bund, and distant about one-eighth of a mile. It is a two-story building 37 by 25 in the clear, containing a Hall above, capable of seating over 100 persons comfortably; and below, sailors' room, library, and reading-room. Necessary outbuildings are provided at the back. As a treasurer's statement is to be issued shortly, I will only add that the contractor's bill, as per statement read, for buildings, was Tls. 1,342.00.

25th January.

In my last, I mentioned that the dredging machine had commenced dropping down the river, through the ice, to the mouth of "Powder Mill Creek." She reached there on the evening of the 21st, and began the work of widening and deepening the creek on the following day. It is to be excavated to a depth of fifteen feet. Although the machine is thus in successful operation, it has not yet, so far as I have been able to learn, been formally accepted by the Deputy of the Viceroy, which to some disinterested persons seems perfectly inexcusable.

We learn that the Peruvian Treaty was exchanged at this place on the 17th inst., Mr. Sheppard, U.S. Consul, having consented to act for the Peruvian Minister, Dr. Elmore, thus obviating the necessity of his leaving the Capital at this time.—*N. C. Daily News* Correspondent.

NANKING.

February 3rd.

The great event, of course, since my last, has been the incoming of the New Year; in honour of which business has been suspended, and the industrious Chinaman is taking his annual holiday. All on the street are well dressed, and each one is wishing his neighbour wealth and happiness,—two things, by the bye, rather scarce in this flowery kingdom. The weather has been very severe since the last day of the old year. On that day the snow fell to a depth of three inches, and the hard frost which followed kept it on the ground for more than a week, to a great disgust of showmen, tumblers, and such like. The Governor-General still holds out in his war against the opium dens, and all the natives of whom I have enquired agree in asserting positively that there is not one opium shop open in the entire city. It is to be hoped he will be able to hold on in this course, though it is said that the fifty thousand opium smokers living within the wall are not very patient under their heavy afflictions. Many military mandarins have been bamboozed for grumbling, but the cry is still they grumble. The next step is, so it is rumoured, to allow opium to be bought at only one place, and there at an exorbitant price. I have been repeatedly asked by men on the streets if I could help them to overcome the habit, or if I had any medicine which would cure them; to all of which I replied that the only effective way is to gradually reduce the quantity, and at the same time live well. But probably they will think, like Naaman of old, that that is far too simple, and spend their money in the purchase of some quack medicine, to be taken on some lucky day, at the full of the moon, or some other time.—*Shanghai Courier* Correspondent.

PEKING.

We learn by private advices from Peking that Mr. Mori, the Japanese ambassador, had his first interview with the Tsung-li Yamen on the 8th instant. Nothing of interest in connection with it has transpired, and most likely nothing occurred. The visit was in all probability of a purely formal nature.—*Celestial Empire.*

We hear from Peking that Li Han-chang, the head of the Chinese Mission of Enquiry to Yunnan, has been appointed Governor-General of Szechuen.

An Edict appears in the *Peking Gazette* ratifying the degradation by Li Han-chang of Li Chen-kwo, Wu Chiliang, and Chang, the Generalissimo of Forces in Yunnan.

The *Gazette* of the 8th January contains an edict by the Empresses Regent directing that the young Emperor shall commence his studies in the fourth moon of the current year. Wang Tung-ho, Vice-Chancellor of the Grand Secretariat, and the Vice-President Hia Tung-shan, are appointed Preceptors. The Emperor's father, Prince Chun, is to superintend the necessary arrangements. The preceptors at once go through the form of entreating to be relieved of so responsible an office; and their memorial is of course negatived on the following day.

In one case at least, it has been proved an appeal to Peking is not utterly hopeless. We mentioned some time ago the interest taken in this and the neighbouring province, in the case of a literate named Yang Nai-wu who had been condemned to death, at Hungchow, for murdering the husband of a woman with whom he had been intriguing. It was said to be generally believed that the man was innocent, and great influence was brought to bear—both by the Hangchow officials to sustain their judgment, and by certain censors and literati to have it reversed. Three times the case has been referred back from Peking for re-hearing; and now, at last, the whole case is ordered to be tried before the Board of Punishments, "in the interests of justice and in order to set the public mind at rest." Accused, witnesses and all, are to be sent under escort to Peking.—*N. C. Daily News.*

YEDO.

H.B.M.'s Minister at Yedo has published the following notification dated the 7th instant in reference to the issue of the *Bankoku Shimbun*:—"The Japanese Government having represented to the undersigned that the publication of newspapers in the Japanese language by persons who are not subject to the Japanese Press Laws may be subversive of internal order and cause grave injury to the public interests of Japan, and the said Government having also requested the undersigned, on these grounds, to prohibit the publication of such newspapers by British subjects, the undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan, in pursuance of Sections 85, 86, and 90 of the China and Japan Order in Council, 1865, hereby makes and establishes the following Regulation, and declares that, the same being urgent, it shall, in pursuance of Sections 85 and 88 of the said order in Council, have effect in each Consular district in Japan, at the time, and in the manner provided by the said Order in Council, unless and until it is disapproved by Her Majesty, and such disapproval is received and published in the manner prescribed by the order in Council aforesaid.—Regulation.—Any British subject who shall, within the dominions of His Majesty the Mikado, print or publish a newspaper in the Japanese language shall be deemed guilty of an offence, and upon conviction thereof before any British Consular or other Court shall be liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months, with or without hard labour, and with or without a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars without imprisonment.—*Japan Gazette.*

YOKOHAMA.

The Chinese compradore, who, our readers will remember, robbed the German Bank, was condemned on the 28th of January to ten years' hard labour. The Court admitted that there were extenuating circumstances in his case; otherwise the penalty would have been more severe.—*L'Echo du Japan.*

Another of those accidents which often happen to vessels, in sight of port so to speak, has occurred. The victim in this instance is the *Surprise*, an American ship, Captain Johnson, (Shields pilot) with 1,400 tons of cargo on board. She left New York on the 26th September, and is thus 131 days out. On the morning of the 4th instant, soon after 10 o'clock, she ran right on to the Plymouth Rock, where she now lies a total wreck, and full of water. At 5.30 p.m. on the 4th instant she appears to have been in charge of a detachment from the crew of the Japanese man-of-war *Funiyama*. The weather was very heavy at the time of the shipwreck, and a gale of wind was blowing. As the ship *Western Chief* passed, the bows of the *Surprise* were well up on the rocks. The chances are that most, if not all, of the cargo will be saved.—*Japan Gazette.*

The *Herald* says that Russia has lost no time in considering how to turn her new possession, Saghalien, to a profitable account. A commission instituted at St. Petersburg recommends the construction of five steamers to ply between the Southern shores of the Island of Saghalin, the Russian Pacific coast, and Shanghai. By sending Saghalien coal to Shanghai, and, on the return voyage, conveying teas, &c., to Nicholaiesk and Vladivostock, it is expected to establish a profitable trade. The five seams of coal in the island will prove of inestimable value for steam purposes in the part Russia is destined to play in the waters of the Japan Sea. Japan will probably have cause bitterly to regret that she ever exchanged these valuable deposits of coal for a few rocky islands capable of nothing better than for breeding and dwelling places for sea otters. With respect to the steamers to be built, they will in all probability be so constructed, like the Black Sea vessels, as to be suitable for war purposes. These steamers will probably prove to be the nucleus of a Russian fleet, to be permanently employed in these waters.

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Agents.
tf 8 Hongkong, January, 1876.

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.
FROM this date, until further notice, a discount of Twenty per cent. (20 °/₀) upon the current local rate of premia will be allowed upon insurances effected with this Company.
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
Agents.
tf 1193 Hongkong, 27th June, 1872.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.
AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Saigon and Penang.
Risks accepted, and Policies of Insurance granted at the rates of Premium current at the above-mentioned Ports.
No charge for Policy fees.
JAS. R. COUGHTREE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 1st November, 1871. [tf 885

Insurances.

THE SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agent in Hongkong for the above-named Company, is prepared to GRANT POLICIES against FIRE on Buildings and on Goods to the extent of £10,000 at the usual rates subject to an immediate discount of 20 °/₀.
Attention is invited to a considerable reduction in premia for Life Insurance in China.
Life Policies effected during the year 1875 Share in the Bonus to be declared on 31st December for the quinquennial period then ending.
A. MACG. HEATON.
1465 Hongkong, 27th September, 1875.

YANG-TSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF SHANGHAI.
CAPITAL AND SURPLUS 800,000 TAELS.
POLICIES granted on *Marine Risks* to all parts of the World, at current rates.
This Association will, until further notice, provide out of the earnings, first for an interest dividend of 15 °/₀ for shareholders on Capital, and thereafter distribute among Policy holders annually, in cash, ALL the profits of the Underwriting Business *pro-rata* to amount of premium contributed.
RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.
tf 1089 Hongkong, 9th July, 1872.

TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.
THE undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept *risks against Fire at current rates*, subject to a bonus of 20 per cent.
SIEMSSEN & Co.,
Agents.
tf 39 Hongkong, 16th November, 1872.

LONDON AND ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT INSURANCE OFFICE,
137, LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON.
ESTABLISHED 1843.
THE Undersigned is authorised to accept risks on behalf of this Office, by First Class Steamers and Sailing Ships.
A. McIVER, *Agent.*
tf Hongkong, 1st July, 1867.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED).
NOTICE.
POLICIES granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two-thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premia contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.
OLIPHANT & Co.,
General Agents.
tf 951 Hongkong, 17th April, 1873.

Vessels on the Berth.

FOR SAIGON.
THE Steamship
"THINGVALLA"
will leave for the above Port TO-DAY, the 17th instant, at 2 P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
SOEY SHING,
Bonham Strand.
13d 186 Hongkong, 8th February, 1866.

FOR SHANGHAI.
THE German Steamship
"BELLONA,"
Fischmeier, Master, will be despatched as above TO-DAY, the 17th inst., at 4 P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
WM. PUSTAU & Co.,
Agents.
2d 229 Hongkong, 16th February, 1876.

STEAM TO SHANGHAI.
(*Taking Cargo at through rates to* NAGASAKI *and* HIOGO.)
THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship
"LOMBARDY,"
will leave for the above place TO-DAY, the 17th inst., at 4 P.M.
A. McIVER,
Superintendent.
P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,
Hongkong, 16th February, 1876. [167

FOR COOKTOWN, SYDNEY, AND MELBOURNE.
THE Eastern and Australian Mail Steam Company's Steamer
"BOWEN,"
Captain T. Park, will be despatched as above TO-MORROW, the 18th inst., at Noon.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
7d 202 Hongkong, 12th February, 1876.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
FOR LONDON *viâ* SUEZ CANAL.
THE Company's Steamship
"ULYSSES"
will be despatched on or about the 17th instant.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
188 Hongkong, 9th February, 1876.

FOR COOKTOWN (DIRECT).
THE Steamship
"NAMOA,"
Captain Westoby, will be despatched for the above Port on SATURDAY, the 19th inst., at Noon.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
6d 214 Hongkong, 14th February, 1876.

FOR MANILA.
THE British Ship
"CAROLUS MAGNUS,"
Thos. Miles, Master, will meet with quick despatch for the above Port.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
WIELER & Co.
218 Hongkong, 15th February, 1876.

FOR LONDON.
THE A1 British Ship
"SARAH NICHOLSON,"
933 Tons Register, Captain Selkirk, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch. For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
174 Hongkong, 7th February, 1876.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.
THE A1 British Clipper Ship
"GRYFE,"
Thos. Roberts, Master, will load for the above Port, and will have immediate despatch.
For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
138 Hongkong, 1st February 1876.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.
THE A1 American Ship
"LATHLEY RICH,"
Thos. Mitchel, Master, will load for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.
For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
141 Hongkong, 1st February, 1876.

FOR PORTLAND (OREGON).
THE A1 American Ship
"SAMUEL G. REED,"
White, Master, will load for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.
For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
140 Hongkong, 1st February, 1876.

FOR NEW YORK.
THE A1 American Ship
"HAZE,"
Wilkinson, Master, will load here and at Whampoa, and will have quick despatch as above. For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
139 Hongkong, 1st February, 1876.

FOR NEW YORK.
THE A1 American Bark
"CRUSADER,"
Fred. Gorham, Master, will load here and at Whampoa, and will have quick despatch as above. For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
101 Hongkong, 21st January, 1876.

FOR LONDON.
THE A1 British Bark
"CRAIGIE LEA,"
605 tons register, Captain J. Landy, will load here and at Whampoa, and will have quick despatch as above. For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
56 Hongkong, 11th January, 1876.

Vessels on the Berth.

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG, POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, MALTA, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, SOUTHAMPTON, AND LONDON;
ALSO,
BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, AND AUSTRALIA.
THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship "*GWALIOR*," Captain J. C. BABOT, with Her Majesty's Mails, Passengers, Specie, and Cargo, will leave this for the above places on THURSDAY, the 17th instant, at Noon.
Cargo will be received on board until Noon, Specie and Parcels at the office until 2 P.M. on the 16th idem.
For Particulars regarding Freight and Passage, apply at the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong. CONTENTS AND VALUE OF PACKAGES ARE REQUIRED.
A Written Declaration of the Contents and Value of the Packages for the Overland Route is required by the Egyptian Government, and must be delivered by the Shippers to the Company's Agents, with the Bills of Lading or with Parcels; and the Company do not hold themselves responsible for any Detention or Prejudice which may happen from the incorrectness on such declaration.
Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.
A. McIVER, Superintendent.
Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co.'s Office, Hongkong, 4th February, 1876.

NOTICE.
COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.
STEAM FOR
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMALIA, PORT SAID, NAPLES, AND MARSEILLES;
ALSO,
BOMBAY, ST. DENIS, AND PORT LOUIS.
ON THURSDAY, the 24th February, 1876, at Noon, the Company's Steamship "*DJEMNAH*," Commandant FLAMBEAU, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.
Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.
Shipping Orders will be granted till noon. Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M., Specie and Parcels until 3 P.M. on the 23rd February, 1876. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.) Contents and value of Packages are required.
For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.
G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Acting Agent.
Hongkong, 16th February, 1876.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE,
IN CONNECTION WITH THE
CENTRAL AND UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANIES
AND ATLANTIC STEAMERS.
THE S.S. *OCEANIC* will be despatched for San Francisco, *viâ* Yokohama, on WEDNESDAY, the 1st March, at 3 P.M., taking Cargo and Passengers for Japan, the United States, and Europe.
Connection is made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai.
Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. of the 29th instant. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day. All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.
Return Passage Tickets available for 6 months are issued at a reduction of 20 per cent. on regular rates.
For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, Praya West.
G. B. EMORY,
Acting Agent.
Hongkong, 3rd February, 1876.

U. S. MAIL LINE.
PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA AND SAN FRANCISCO.
THE S.S. "*GREAT REPUBLIC*" will leave Hongkong for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on WEDNESDAY, the 15th March, 1876, at 3 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.
Through Passenger Tickets and Bills of Lading are issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, and to New York and Europe, via OVERLAND RAILWAYS.
A Steamer of the Mitsu Bishi S.S. Company will leave Shanghai, via the Inland Sea Ports, about same date, and make close connection at Yokohama.
At New York, Passengers have selection of various lines of steamers to England, France, and Germany.
Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. on the 14th proximo. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.
For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, Praya West.
G. B. EMORY,
Acting Agent.
Hongkong, February 15th, 1876.